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Asia-Pacific Group Seeks 'Free Global Trade'

SK2504021790 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 25 Apr 90 p 8

[Text] The Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) has called upon G-7 [Group of Seven] to declare their support of an opening, indiscriminate and multilateral trading system in their meeting in July. The federation made the call in the 41st conference of its council held at the Lotte Hotel yesterday.

Co-hosted by the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the confederation, 66 delegates from the 11 member countries of CACCI took part in the meeting.

They adopted an eight-point resolution supporting free global trade after they reviewed the impact of a regional trade blockade by advanced countries on Asia and the Pacific. The resolution will be forwarded to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and other international economic and trade organizations.

The participants in the conference especially asked G-7 to buttress the principles of an opening, indiscriminate and multilateral trading system in their July meeting.

G-7 is the group of advanced countries including the United States, Japan, West Germany, the United Kingdom, France and Canada.

They also called upon G-7 to ask all countries taking part in negotiations of the Uruguay Round to abide by "trade liberalization." The Uruguay Round seeks to include agricultural and fisheries products, services and intellectual property rights in global merchandise trade stipulated by GATT.

In the meantime, the delegates to the conference denounced the United States for the implementation of the strong protectionist omnibus trade act in 1988. In particular, they severely criticized Super Section 301 of the act for its strong trade sanctions against foreign countries engaging in unfair trade practices with the United States. Citing that the trade deficit of the United Stats has resulted from excess consumption by Americans, they asked the Bush administration to solve this internal problem instead of passing the buck to its trading partners.

On the other hand, they argued that a new antidumping law which the 12-member European Community seeks to promulgate will be abused as a protectionist tool.

They said that GATT should thoroughly study the contents of the law in order to remove protectionist elements before its enactment.

They also insisted that the EC should make it clear that it will remove all kinds of trade barriers in the fields of textiles, garments, automobiles, electronics and electronics before the unification of the EC market in 1993.

They asked the United States and the EC to play the leading role in driving out trade protectionism and discrimination.

Meanwhile, Kim Sang-ha, president of KCCI [Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry], said that growing protectionism and regional economic blockade in the EC and North America are more and more unnerving Asian and Pacific countries.

In his welcoming address, he emphasized that all countries in Asia and the Pacific should mutually and efficiently use their natural resources and cooperate in trade, investment and the transfer of technology to facilitate the economic development of the region.

Among the delegates to the conference was Kenneth W. Court, chairman of CACCI.

Japan

Joint Pledge With EC on Trade 'Unilateralism'

OW0405050690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0411 GMT 4 May 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Napa, California, May 3 KYODO—Japan and the 12-nation European Community pledged on Thursday to fight for a ban on unilateral action by the United States and other countries to settle trade disputes. Japan's International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto and EC Vice President Frans Andriessen made the pledge in a meeting, officials said.

"It's commonly understood when Japan and the EC talk about unilateralism, we are talking about the U.S. omnibus trade act," a Japanese trade official said.

Sources said Muto plans to call on his counterparts from the U.S., the EC, and Canada to ban such unilateral measures like the so-called Super 301 provision, which threatens of retaliation for unfair trading practices. Such measures, they said, constitute a violation of international rules under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Muto met with Andriessen before attending a plenary session of the quadrilateral trade ministers meeting with U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills and Canadian International Trade Minister John Crosbie. Delegates said the quad will deal almost exclusively on issues related to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, which is scheduled to be completed with a ministerial conference in Brussels in December.

The pledge by both Japan and the EC to fight unilateral trade action came a week after the U.S., using the controversial Super 301 provision, renamed India as a priority country with allegedly massive barriers to foreign investors and insurance companies.

Japan and Brazil were kept off the Super 301 list this year as the result of market-opening measures demanded by the U.S.

Andriessen told Muto he requested Hills on Wednesday to raise the issue of "unilaterism" in the four-way discussions on Thursday and Friday, a Japanese official said. Muto met Hills, President George Bush and his top advisers in Washington on Monday and Tuesday before attending the quad, held at the Silverado Country Club in wine-growing Napa Valley.

The MITI [Ministry of International Trade and Industry] head told Andriessen that Japan expects the EC to accept an antidumping panel ruling against its "screwdriver" regulations, the Japanese official said. The official said the EC vice president gave no indication whether, or when, the EC will accept the ruling.

Andriessen, responding to Muto's inquiry about the EC strategy for aiding emerging democracies in Eastern Europe, said the Common Market is prepared to have "political, economic, and financial relations" with countries willing to forge such dialogue. He also said the EC plans to propose an expansion of economic aid to East European countries, in addition to Poland and Hungary, during a meeting of the Group of 24 (G-24) countries in July, possibly in Brussels.

The countries that might benefit from such Western assistance are East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, and Yugoslavia, officials said. Muto told Andriessen that Tokyo is considering providing Eastern Europe with management cooperation, Japanese investment, and technology transfers.

Japanese officials said Muto asked the EC about its willingness to cooperate with Japan in the fields of investment and technology transfers. Andriessen told Muto the EC expects upcoming Japan-EC ministerial talks in Brussels to become a "landmark" in the bilateral relationship, often described as the weakest of the U.S.-Japan-EC "trialogue."

A Japanese trade official said the ministerial talks will be held on May 28-29 or only on May 29.

Burmese Dissidents Condemn Planned Election

OW0305113590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1047 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Nagoya, May 3 KYODO—Some 150 dissident and resident Myanmar [Burmese] nationals from eight nations declared Yangon's [Rangoon's] planned general election invalid on Thursday and urged their countrymen to boycott the poll, scheduled for late May.

The 10-article declaration, which came after a two-day closed-door conference by some 40 Myanmar nationals, condemned Gen. Saw Maung's military regime for forcing an "unfree, unfair" election without essential democratic freedoms of speech, demonstration, and publication. The announcement noted the regime will not allow media coverage of the election and has made no promise of power transfer to those who will be elected as parliamentarians.

The meeting reported a recent announcement by the State Law and Order Registration Council, the nerve center of the Sau Maung regime, that the National Assembly to be elected is only a "constitution drawing one" and therefore the current government will stay in power at least for two years after the poll.

Gen. Saw Maung seized power in September 1988 in a military coup by putting down nationwide prodemocracy demonstrations.

Noting that main opposition political figures are under house arrest or have even been murdered, the conference urged Myanmar voters to boycott the poll if they feel their votes will not be properly counted. "Those who are

to vote, if any, are apparently voting from fear," a member said, expressing his commitment to persuading voters to boycott the poll.

Dissident leaders, revealing recent information, said tens of thousands of voters, especially supporters of opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, have been forced to migrate to the countryside.

The declaration also urged election candidates to withdraw from running if they find the poll is not being conducted fairly. "The military regime is attempting to cheat the world by the coming election," it declared, saying only concerted sanctions from the world community can save the Myanmar people.

The declaration, to be sent to all United Nations member nations, called on the world to immediately halt all cultural, political, and economic relations with Yangon's "cruel" military regime, which it said cooperates with drug traffickers. It also cited as another reason to declare the election unfair and invalid the unjust martial laws still being imposed in various places in Myanmar.

Thursday's "Democracy in Burma Now" conference, hosted by the dissident group, Burmese Association in Japan, is the first such expatriate meeting seeking restoration of democracy in the country, organizers said. The dissidents spoke under the six-star national flag used before the 1962 military coup by Ne Win and another flag of the student movement featuring a fighting peacock, a symbol of Myanmar [Burma].

Lawmakers including Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Vice Chairwoman Manae Kubota, U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy and U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz sent messages to the Nagoya meeting which were read out.

Urging the world to take concerted action to oust Yangon's military government, the gathering demanded international organs like the United Nations to disqualify the Yangon government from membership. They also criticized Thailand, which they said is cheaply exploiting wood and other natural Myanmar resources with the aid of the Yangon government.

In a press meeting, Than Lwyn, from Australia, said they formed on Wednesday an international team called "International Network for Democracy in Burma," aimed at eliminating the one-party system in Myanmar. The participants said they want to hold another international meeting, possibly in Japan, to be attended also by Myanmar ethnic minorities.

A journalist participant from New York said offers from some American law firms to go to Myanmar for election monitoring have been ignored by Yangon. They reported that the Saw Maung government announced that foreigners would be ordered out of the country from May 1 and that air transportation was to stop as the election nears.

Reportage on Kaifu Tour of South Asia Countries

WA0305182090

For local reportage on the visit by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, including reports on talks with heads of state, please see the respective sections of the 30 April Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, and subsequent issues.

Nakayama Pays Official Visit to Czechoslovakia

WA0405114490

For Czechoslovak media reportage on the official, two-day visit by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to the CSFR, including reports on his talks with Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier, please see the Czechoslovakia section of the 4 May East Europe DAILY REPORT.

Mongolia

Premier Urges Discipline To Combat 'Crisis'

LD0305161690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1506 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN correspondent)—Mongolian People's Republic Government head Sharabyn Gungaadorj has called on the Mongolian people to create the way out of the crisis with industrious work, discipline, and order. There is no other possibility, he said in a television address. The government wishes to fulfill its obligations to the people, and will soon publish the outline for the social and economic development of the country up to 1995. The demanding aims can only be achieved in a stable situation, not in chaos.

The governnment head warned against anarchy. Some political forces are now using forms of struggle "that are not in accordance with the Mongolian character." He emphasized that the government had given no cause for the hunger strikes and will therefore not take responsibility for the possible consequences.

Television reported that production collectives from the northern Mongolian area of Hobsgol, where the hunger strike is taking place, have announced that there will be warning strikes to support the protest.

May Day Marked in Capital's Suhke Bator Square

OW0405040590 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Next from Radio Ulaanbaatar we present to you a report filed by our correspondent on the public fete held on the central Sukhe Bator Square of Ulaanbaatar on the occasion of the international day of solidarity.

The capital city of Mongolia was bathed in festive decorations and mood. The posters and transparents on the buildings and streets of the city carried the words

promoting democracy, openness, national unity, and solidarity of the Mongolian people with their colleagues in other countries, and wishing peace and happiness to all world progressives.

May 1 is the festivity of spring when the weather begins to become warmer and leaves and plants begin to grow again. All these indications of spring can be attributed to the political weather of Mongolia, characterized by the fresh wind of democratization and pluralism of political views. One proof of this is the latest mushrooming of new political parties, movements, and associations in the country called upon to contribute to the ongoing renewal process.

At the Sukhe Bator Square, our correspondent met with some of the participants in the fete. [Brief recording of Mongolian conversation] The man whom our correspondent talked to was Rinchin Baymar. He says that, unlike the previous years, today it has become the tradition to hold public fetes on the occasion of the international day of solidarity instead of May Day demonstrations in which people were forced to take part. Today we came to the central square just for fun. This is really a fruit of the renewal process, says Rinchin.

Really, the central square was the venue of spring festivity. On specially arranged arenas folk and contemporary music groups were playing concerts, while in the other corner of the square some children were hard at drawing on asphalt. The themes they chose were mostly peace and friendship.

One of the sponsors of and active participants in the May Day public fetes were newly set up parties, movements, and associations. The New Progressive Union held a public fete in the Youth Park in Ulaanbaatar. They organized a solidarity bazaar and raffle, art exhibitions, book sale, and folk games. The other fete participants with pleasure bought the newspaper-booklet and the emblem and badge of the New Progressive Union.

At the fete, our correspondent met with Deputy Chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers Dzardyhan, and asked him to share his impressions.

[Begin Dzardyhan recording in Mongolian fading into English translation] Taking this opportunity, I'd first of all like to convey the May Day greetings to the entire Mongolian people and all other progressives. I have been to several public fetes held at the central and other squares of Ulaanbaatar and talked to people of different age and profession from which I learned that all of them really want to contribute this year to deepening the process of renewal and reconstruction in the country. Here I also met with members of the Mongolian New Progressive Union and learned that they are searching for effective ways of contributing to the country's advancement forward. It is natural that in this renewal process we will confront many difficulties, but we should not be afraid of making mistakes. The only thing needed is to unite our efforts and find solution to urgent issues of the country's development through dialogue and mutual understanding, says Deputy Chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers Dzardyhan. [end recording]

This year's international day of solidarity was marked in Mongolia in the spirit of heightened political activity of the Mongolians to promote the ongoing renewal process in the country.

North Korea

Human Rights Situation in South Discussed

SK0405050790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—A forum on the violation of human rights in South Korea was held by officials of political parties and public organisations, scholars and men of the press at the People's Palace of Culture on May 3.

At the forum the speakers pointed out that a far more grave human rights situation than under the "Fifth Republic" dictatorship has been created in South Korea owing to the most brutal military fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group. They made an allround analysis of its reactionary nature, cruelty and political cause and underscored ways of resolving the human rights problem in South Korea.

The conversion of South Korea into the most desolate wasteland of human rights in the world finds graphic expression in the arrest and imprisonment of people, inhuman tortures, murderous trials, punishment and murder of patriotic-minded students and people, they said.

They noted that the number of the people taken into custody on the charge of the violation of the "National Security Law" and other fascist laws under the "Sixth Republic" dictatorship is 3.3 times on a daily average that under the "Fifth Republic" dictatorship.

They said the cruelty of the suppression of human rights in South Korea can be seen in that the fascist clique are "blocking at the initial stage" or putting down the struggle of the popular masses with the mobilisation of huge suppressive tools and forces.

They noted that a large number of patriots and innocent people are murdered in cold blood by shocking tortures and punished on groundless "charges."

The seriousness of the human rights problem in south korea, they said, lies in that the chuche idea, the advanced idea, is incriminated, its study and dissemination are maliciously blocked and elementary freedom of the press is ruthlessly trampled underfoot.

They said the deplorable human rights situation in South Korea is an offspring of the colonial domination of the United States and the military fascist rule. If the human rights problem is to be solved truly in South Korea, it is

necessary to liquidate the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists first of all, they stressed.

With the No Tae-u group, the gang of stooges of the U.S. imperialists, left alone, it is impossible to solve the human rights problem in South Korea, they said.

The speakers urged the puppet clique to scrap the "National Security Law" and other fascist laws and suppressive tools, totally renounce the fascist "security-oriented policy", immediately release the patriotic people under arrest, give up the dastardly scheme to prolong the one-party fascist dictatorship through the merger of three parties and step down forthwith.

The forum was attended by leading functionaries of the C.C., the Chondoist Chongu Party, the C.C., the Korean Social Democratic Party, the C.C., the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, the C.C., the General Federation of Trade Unions, the Academy of Social Science, and NODONG SINMUN, and others concerned.

South Demands Heavy Penalty for Student Leader

SK0405050490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u fascist clique held a trial at the puppet Seoul district criminal court on May 3 and demanded a jail term of 12 years and the same term of suspension of qualification for student Im Chong-sok, former chairman of the "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop), according to a report.

In the pre-arranged "judgement paper" they charged that student Im Chong-sok, when he was chairman of Chondaehyop, sent in secrecy woman student Yim Su-kyong to the North in summer last year and had phone contact with the Korean Students Committee.

They also charged that he "manipulated demonstrations of students behind the scene on several occasions."

In demanding a heavy penalty for student Im Chong-sok following the penalisation of woman student Yim Su-kyong the No Tae-u group betrayed once again its dastardly color as an anti-reunification splittist and fascist murderer.

Coordinated 'Air Strike Exercises' Staged

SK0305231490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists brought many warplanes in the sky above South Korea from their overseas bases three times over April 28-29 to stage coordinated air strike exercises for a simulated attack on the North, according to military sources.

They hurled formations of overseas-based "F-16," "F-4" and "F-5" fighter-bombers and "AV-8" vertical takeoff and landing craft to the sky above Sosan, Kongju, Yongdong and Wonju of South Korea for a vicious preemptive air strike exercise against the Northern half of Korea twice between 08:00 and 17:00 April 28.

They also dispatched formations of overseas-based "F-5" fighter-bombers and "A-6" assault planes to the sky above Wonju and Yongwol for an attack exercise against the North between 10:00 and 18:00 April 29.

Mobilized in the two-day exercises were fighter-bombers, assault planes, vertical takeoff and landing craft, electronic jamming planes, refueling planes and other types of aircraft, some 200 in all.

On May 2, they sent several formations of "A-6" assault planes based on the aircraft carrier "Midway" belonging to the Seventh Pacific Fleet of the U.S. Navy to South Korea for an aerial war exercise, supported by electronic jamming planes, simulating a surprise attack on the targets in the tactical in-depth areas of the northern half of Korea.

On April 27, they mobilized several formations of "F-16" fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Seventh Air Force in a long-time air strike exercise to support the ground attack operation of the reinforced U.S. Second Infantry Division while being refuelled in the air by overseas-based refuelling planes.

On April 29, they sent in a planned way dozens of "AH-1" military helicopters belonging to the Seventh Air Force to the sky above Chunchon for a hysteric aerial war exercise to increase the capacity of striking the targets on the ground in "case of emergency," creating a war atmosphere.

This frantic war racket of the U.S. imperialists clearly shows how desperately they are working to realise their ambition for aggression on the North.

U.S. Told To 'Take Hands Off' Jerusalem

SK0405051190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—Commenting on the U.S. Congress "resolution" recognizing Quds [Jerusalem] as the capital of Israel, NODONG SINMUN today says that this has aroused indignation of the Arab people and the international community.

The news analyst says:
Quds is an Arab soil illegally grabbed by the Zionists through their wars of aggression against Arab countries.

The right to decide the status of Quds entirely rests with the Arab people.

The United States has no right to decide the status of Quds, and there is no legal and historical justification for making it the capital of Israel.

The step of the U.S. Congress vividly shows once again that the United States is the enemy of Arab people, who is obstructing the solution of the Mid-East issue, violating the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and persistently encouraging the Israeli aggressors to territorial expansion.

The U.S. Congress "resolution" declaring Quds the eternal capital of Israel was motivated by its insideous scheme to bar the establishment of the state of Palestine with Quds as its capital and use Israel as a shock force in the aggressive Mid-East strategy of the United States by instigating her to territorrial expansion.

The United States must not impede a fair settlement of the Mid-East issue but take its hands off this area.

Daily Assails U.S. War Game at Guantanamo Bay

SK0405051090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—The Korean people join the world's peaceloving people in sternly denouncing the anti-Cuban moves of the U.S. imperialists and expressing firm solidarity with the Cuban people in their righteous struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country, says MINJU CHOSON in a commentary today. Hitting out at the escalating anti-Cuban moves of the U.S. imperialists, the news analyst says:

The U.S. imperialists started one more large-scale war game codenamed "Defence" at the Guantanamo Naval Base on May 1 when the anti-Cuban military drill dubbed "Ocean Venture" was going on from April 20.

This shows that the U.S. imperialists' moves against Cuba have entered a very dangerous phase.

The U.S. imperialists who are dead set on breaking the revolutionary will of the Cuban people are trying to realise their design by means of ideological harrassment and military invasion.

The Cuban people are watching with sharp vigilance the anti-Cuban moves of the U.S. imperialists which are getting more unscrupulous.

Comrade Fidel Castro declared that the Cuban people will fight any aggression by the U.S. imperialists and win under the motto "Socialism or Death".

The U.S. imperialists must give up their anachronistic anti-Cuban moves at once.

Zambian President Meets Pak Song-chol Delegation

SK0405045790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—Zambian President Kenneth David Kaunda on April 29 stated that the Zambian people and himself express full support to the struggle of the Korea people for national reunification.

We hold that Korea should be reunified in accordance with the proposals set forth by the great leader President Kim Il-song, he stressed.

He said that the friendly and cooperative relations between Zambia and Korea are on the upgrade, when he met with a Korean party and government delegation headed by Pak Song-chul, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, on April 29.

Anniversary of Buddha's Birth Observed

SK0305225890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—Ceremonies were held Wednesday at temples in the DPRK to observe the birth anniversary of Buddha.

At the Pohyon temple in Mt. Myohyang the ceremony began with a 21 bell-toll, followed by a ritual service, a walk round of monks and a sermon.

Venerable Hwang Pyong-tae, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Buddhists Federation, said in the sermon: The "pain, craving, cessation of the pain and noble path" are the most important of holy principles preached by Buddha to his disciples. They are valuable truths which teach humanity how to get rid of pain and attain happiness.

Touching upon the pains suffered by the entire fellow countrymen, especially the South Korean people, due to the division of the nation, he ascribed the cause of the pains to the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their persistent "two Koreas" plot.

Hwang Pyong-tae went on:
There will be no pain for our nation when an independent, unified country is built on this land after the U.S. troops are driven out of South Korea. This goal will be attained only when a confederal, unified state, for example, the democratic confederal republic of Koryo, is established in Korea.

The entire Korean people should courageously wage the nationwide struggle to drive out the U.S. Imperialists and reunify the country with concerted efforts, irrespective of political view, religious belief, ideology and system.

The new reunification proposal advanced by respected president Kim Il-song in his new year address for pulling down the concrete wall built in the area south of the Military Demarcation Line and realising free travel and complete opening between the North and the South is a fair and aboveboard initiative which will put into effect the desire of Buddhists to build an ideal society free from pains and full of happiness in this 3,000-ri land as soon as possible. All the Buddhists should more dynamically endeavour to translate this proposal into reality at an early date.

Prospects for Joint Ventures Business 'Bright'

SK0305230490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—It is a consistent external economic policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to expand and develop economic and technological exchange and cooperation with other countries of the world.

The Law of Joint Venture adopted in September 1984 constitutes an important part of the policy.

The state encourages domestic companies and enterprises to do joint venture within the DPRK territory with foreign companies, enterprises and individuals on the principle of equality and mutual benefits.

According to Kim Song-hwan, director of the General Bureau of Joint Venture Industry, more than 100 units have realized or are promoting joint venture and cooperation with Korean traders and industrialists in Japan and with many countries including the Soviet Union, China, Hong Kong, Italy and France.

Scores of joint venture companies have already commissioned and different kinds of their products make no small contribution to the development of the national economy and the improvement of the standard of the people's living.

Increasing is foreign demand for digital control machine tools, electronic elements and automation instruments, motors, silk fabrics, silk yarn, piano, and various kinds of chemical products and agricultural and fishery products.

The prospect of joint venture business is bright.

Joint venture programmes of machine, chemical and building materials factories and textile mills are now in progress and the number of overseas Koreans and foreign entrepreneurs who propose to discuss such joint venture is steadily increasing.

Joint venture is expanding in industry, construction, transport, sciences and technology and tourism, etc.

Investment can be made in diverse forms such as property in cash and kind, patent right, technical documents, etc.

A joint venture bank, a joint venture transport company and a joint venture material supply firm are now operating for the convenience of joint venture companies in Korea.

South Korea

No Tae-u Postpones Trip to North America

SK0405112990 Seoul YONHAP in English 1027 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u has decided to postpone his trip to Canada, the United States and Mexico scheduled for May 24-June 4 owing to domestic problems, a senior government official said Friday [4 May]. No will, however, visit Japan as scheduled in view of the urgency of pending bilateral issues, he said.

No originally planned to tour the North American countries following his visit to Tokyo but made up his mind not to go ahead with the trip considering the graveness of the various socio-economic problems facing the country, the official said.

Foreign Ministry officials here explained to the ambassadors of the three countries the reasons for the postponement of his trip and reportedly told them that No would probably be able to visit those countries in the coming autumn. The official pointed out that No has consistently been advised by his aides to put off his scheduled visits to the three countries in the face of pressing domestic issues, comprising labor unrest, inflationary pressure and a stock market plunge. The official said No obtained understanding from leaders of the three countries with regard to the postponement of his trips.

The South Korean Government recently vowed to put all its energy into an effort to overcome domestic tension created by soaring prices, intensifying labor-government confrontation, continuing stock market slide and mounting public resentment over internal discord of the ruling party, describing it as "a crisis in its entirety."

Trip to Tokyo Still on; Advance Team To Arrive

SK0405085690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0737 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—Two high-ranking South Korean Foreign Ministry officials are due in Tokyo on Monday [7 May] to seek accords and calm resident Koreans before President No Tae-u visits later this month. Yi Ki-chu, assistant foreign minister for economic affairs, will seek a commitment from Japan on reducing its huge surplus in trade with Korea and expanding cooperation in industrial technology. And Kim Hang-kyong, director general for consular affairs and overseas Koreans, will try to appease Korean residents, who are unhappy with a recent agreement on their legal status.

The foreign ministers of Korea and Japan agreed in April that Tokyo will exempt third-generation Koreans from fingerprinting and make a few other revisions concerned with Koreans in Japan. The Koreans want total exemption from fingerprinting, arguing that they should be

treated differently from residents of other nationalities as they were taken to Japan against their will.

Before returning on Thursday, Yi will call for positive cooperation in Korea's development of advanced industrial technologies and new materials as a means of easing trade imbalance. He will discuss with Japanese officials the expansion of a training program for Korean workers, signing a nuclear power agreement, establishing a joint research institute in the Tsukuba Research Compound, opening Japan's construction market to Korean firms and cooperation in the fisheries sector. "The government recognizes the growing importance of substantial Korea-Japan cooperation amid the global trend to form economic blocs," a Ministry official said.

PRC Envoy Discusses Korean Peninsula Situation

SK0405015990 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 4 Apr 90 p 5

[Report by Washington correspondent Kim Chang-ki]

[Text] On 3 May, Zhu Qizhen, Chinese ambassador to the United States, said that China will welcome any measure that the United States may take to improve its relations with North Korea. Ambassador Zhu delivered a speech at an international conference held that morning at the U.S. State Department under the auspices of the U.S.-Asian Research Institute. During his speech, he said, "China pays particular attention to the situation on the Korean peninsula, and is carefully watching the status of division there."

Ambassador Zhu also said he hoped North and South Korea will promote dialogue to ensure they could achieve national reconciliation by alleviating tension and promoting mutual understanding, thus achieving peaceful reunification. However, he said that, as a concrete plan to achieve the reunification of the Korean peninsula, China supports North Korea's proposal for achieving reunification based upon a confederal system.

Soviet Economist Views Future Bilateral Ties

SK0405051590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0500 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—A top Soviet economist predicted Friday [4 May] that Moscow will establish diplomatic ties with Seoul within the next 12 months. Abel G. Aganbegyan, rector of the Soviet Academy of National economy and economic adviser to President Mikhail Gorbachev, said diplomatic ties would resolve the problems hampering bilateral exchange. "The Soviet Union desperately needs Korea's support for its on-going economic development projects, but finds it enormously difficult to get it in the absence of diplomatic relations. When the diplomatic ties are established within half to one year, such difficulties will disappear," he predicted.

Aganbegyan was speaking at a breakfast meeting sponsored by the International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK), a semi-official forum handling Korea's economic policy on the East Bloc. Aganbegyan came to Seoul last week as a guest of the Korea Development Institute, a government-run think tank, and was to leave Friday.

Speaking on "the current Soviet economy and prospects for South Korea-Soviet economic cooperation," the economist said his country was keenly interested in Korea's industrial technology and experiences in economic development. He said the Soviet Union was planning to offer incentives for foreign investment in his country by enacting a law on investment security. The Soviet Union's bold economic reforms since Gorbachev's inauguration will allow businesses to engage in direct trade with foreign countries, restructure the price system except for five vital items—milk, bread, sugar, butter and meat—and bring up the stock market, he said.

Editorial on Sino-Soviet Arms Reduction Pact

SK0405011990 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 26 Apr 90 p 3

[Editorial: "Arms Reduction in China and Soviet Union and North and South of Korea"]

[Text] The conflict between China and the Soviet Union, which has not been resolved for the past 30 years, appears to be approaching a visible settlement. The Chinese-Soviet discord, caused by an ideological dispute between Mao Zedong and Khrushchev in the late fifties, deepened with each passing day and resulted in the concentration and strengthening of armed forces in the border areas between the two countries, which extend some 6,700 km.

The relations between the two countries, after all, accelerated the normalization of Sino-U.S. relations. This situation even gave an impression to the people that the Japan-China Asian military pivot with the United States as the main axis may be formed. On the other hand, this had resulted in accelerating the Soviet Union's arms buildup. In particular, this caused remarkable qualitative and quantitative improvement in the Soviet naval forces in Asia, as well as nuclear bases, and air force.

Such arms buildup and arms race were not desirous for the Korean peninsula which is located in the geopolitical center. In particular, each side of the divided North and South of Korea had to strengthen its military forces prompted by a microscopic viewpoint on security to maintain its own system.

Considering such a situation, the agreement reached in Moscow on 24 April between China and the Soviet Union on reduction of their armed forces deployed in the border areas is very fortunate not only for these two relevant countries but also to the Korean peninsula which can hardly free itself from their influence. However, we should not be excessively optimistic about the

situation in this region just because Chinese Premier Li Peng and Soviet President Gorbachev have reached a principled agreement.

First of all, one should not forget that long, intensive diplomatic efforts were made by both China and the Soviet Union and that political changes took place in these two nations until they reached an agreement to reduce their enormous armed forces deployed in border areas. The first government-level contact between China and the Soviet Union for reconciliation was the talks between the vice foreign ministers of the two nations in October 1979. However, the relations between the two were cooled off again due to the Soviet Union's armed invasion of Afghanistan in December of the same year. Since that time, China thoroughly refused negotiations and reconciliation with the Soviet Union, pointing to the three factors hindering China-Soviet Union reconciliation which included 1) the Soviet Army in the borders between China and the Soviet Union and between China and Mongolia; 2) the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, demanding withdrawal of the Soviet Army; and 3) Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia, demanding withdrawal of Soviet support for Vietnam. After various vicissitudes, the first two were settled and thus the approach to the first has become possible.

Second, although both China and the Soviet Union agreed to reduce their enormous armed forces deployed in the border areas in order to overcome economic crisis, the concrete steps as to how they will reduce them have not been made known. Meanwhile, we should also pay attention to how the position and role of Japan, which is emerging as another big military power at a time when the two big military powers in Asia are going to reduce their armed forces, will change.

The internal and external risk [wihom pudam] which the big military powers should take in carrying out epochal arms reduction is very great. How will they dispose of 42 divisions of the Chinese Army and 56 divisions of the Soviet Army, as well as 800-odd various Soviet nuclear warheads deployed in the border areas? How will Japan and North Korea react to this? Thus, there are many things to which we should pay close attention. North Korea is suffering as much economic pressure and excessive burden from defense costs as that of China and the Soviet Union. We wonder if the time has come for us to move forward for mutual arms control.

Kim Yong-sam, Gregg Discuss Current Situation

SK0405072190 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 4 May 90 p 1

[Text] On the morning of 4 May, Cochairman of the Democratic Liberal Party Kim Yong-sam had a talk with U.S. Ambassador to Korea Donald Gregg in the latter's residence, exchanging views on matters of mutual concern between Korea and the United States.

At this meeting, which was arranged at the request of the U.S. side, Cochairman Kim is reported to have explained to the U.S. ambassador the difficult situation now developing in Korea, including the latest eruptions of labor-management disputes and economic uneasiness, and stressed the importance of the strengthened cooperative relations between the two countries, which is more necessary than ever at such a time.

Cochairman Kim is also reported to have spoken about the outcome of his visit to the Soviet Union last March, the programs the government and the governing party have worked out for the implementation of northern diplomacy, and then asked for U.S. cooperation in them.

U.S. Evaluation of North Threat Examined

SK0405002790 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 1 May 90 p 4

[From the column "Reporter's Eye" by reporter Pang Hyong-nam from the Foreign News Department: "Does the Threat of Southward Invasion Really Exist?"]

[Text] "If there is an area where people are fearful of a possible outbreak of a war as they get out of bed in the morning, that is precisely the Korean peninsula." This is what U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney symbolically described as the possibility of North Korea's southward invasion in Honolulu last February as he was leaving for Korea. Since then, U.S. evaluation of North Korea has remained consistently pessimistic for some reason. Noting the nuclear reactor in Yongbyon, the possibility of North Korea's development of nuclear weapons is constantly debated, and it is warned that North Korea is continuing to strengthen its military muscles even today when the trend of arms reduction is expanding on a global scale.

In its report released on 19 April in connection with the U.S. forces strategy in Korea and on the troop readjustment plan, the U.S. Department of Defense, while disclosing a plan for the phased reduction of U.S. forces in Korea, noted again that South Korea is unable to successfully thwart a North Korean attack if an adequate troop augmentation is not provided by the United States in times of emergency. North Korea, however, through its Central News Agency on 28 April, rebutted such U.S. assertions, particularly the remarks by Defense Secretary Cheney. It said it has neither the desire to invade the South nor any capabilities of doing so. However, on the following day, on 29 April, Secretary Cheney, in an interview with ABC television, did not relinquish his belief. He said again that North Korea has an intention to invade the South and has the capabilities to do so. Prominent U.S. news media, too, continue to report on North Korea's threatening nature, as if they agree with the U.S. Government evaluation. The most recent example was the 25 April WASHINGTON TIMES report that the warning time regarding North Korea's southward invasion has been reduced to 24 hours from 48 hours of the past.

Why does the United States continue to underscore North Korea's menacing nature? Several things can be

considered. First, we can consider that North Korea really has an intention to invade the South and has the capabilities to do so, as is asserted by the United States. Second, we can also presume that the pressure from the U.S. defense industries, which are going to lose their arms markets in the wake of the global detente, is a factor. There may be some other reasons.

At any rate, what we should really be concerned about is the current situation of North Korea. If the assertions of the U.S. Government and news media are true, we are in a serious crisis. Taking steps in connection with the labor-management disputes and the plunging stock prices is important. What is even more urgent is, however, to work out measures against the threat of North Korea's southward invasion. This notwithstanding, our government does not say a word regarding the matter. It does not say anything about whether the U.S. assertions are right or wrong or whether they are simply an exaggeration.

The government remains silent, though its seems to have its own intelligence, if we consider the fact that the intelligence authorities have recently reported even on such internal North Korean matters as the outbreak of demonstrations at a college in Pyongyang and the examination of the status of foreigners residing in Pyongyang. The government must honestly disclose the intelligence on North Korea so citizens may not be disturbed by U.S. evaluations. This is because an adequate assessment of North Korea is an indispensable stepping stone to easing North-South tension and implementing the reunification policy.

Seoul To Ask Pyongyang for Cuts in Forces

SK0405011690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 4 May 90 p 1

[Text] Key government officials discussed ways to reduce military confrontation on the Korean Peninsula yesterday in a free-wheeling debate chaired by Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, an official present at the closed-door session said. He would not give details on their discussion but informed sources said that they decided to urge North Korea to cut armed forces proportionate to the projected withdrawal of 7,000 U.S. Army and Air Force supportive servicemen from South Korea. The South will also propose other measures to build up mutual confidence and ease tension anticipating that Pyongyang might accept Seoul's recent call for the resumption of meetings to arrange prime ministers' talks.

Song Han-ho, chief Southern delegate, proposed last week that the eighth round of preliminary meetings be held at Panmunjom on May 22 to conclude the arrangements for the prime ministers' talks. All that remains pending is the wording of the agenda. The South plans to realize the talks before the 45th anniversary of national independence from Japanese colonial rule on Aug. 15. It hopes that the prime ministers' meeting would set the way for a summit between No Tae-u and Kim Il-song, as has been proposed by the South, the sources said. North Korea cut off all formal contacts with the South shortly before the Team Spirit joint military exercises in February.

The top government officials further exchanged views on how to implement a variety of projects which Seoul last month said it was determined to pursue. They include the promotion of inter-Korean economic cooperation and personal exchanges. Seoul will formally propose the reopening of multi-level contacts including long-suspended economic talks regarding issues including a joint probe for petroleum on the North Korean western continental shelf and electricity. "We touched on a broad spectrum of inter-Korean issues and tuned up our formal stance in the meeting. We expect that the North will come to the negotiation table late this month," one participant said. Participants in the meeting including Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun, National Unification Minister Hong Song-chol, Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha and intelligence chiefs.

Seoul Seeks To Open Family Visits to North

SK0405014090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0123 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea is looking for a way to reduce the red tape required to visit North Korea in order to encourage the reunion of divided families. The topic of exchange of visits by Koreans came up in an inter-ministerial meeting presided over by Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun on Thursday.

The matter came against the backdrop of Han Pil-song, a dairy farmer, and his wife who are preparing to visit his mother living in the North. Marking the first case in which individuals were allowed to visit North Korea for a family reunion, they are to go up May 15 via Panmunjom, the truce village in the Demilitarized Zone dividing South and North Korea.

Special favors for people over 60 years of age in screening applications for North Korean visits were also discussed, sources present at the meeting said. The favors include drastically simplifying procedures for the northern trip. In his New Year press conference, President No Tae-u proposed to Pyongyang that people aged 60 or up be allowed to visit separated families in the two halves of the peninsula. The sources said the officials also debated how South Korea should react if North Korea responds positively to Seoul's call to resume preliminary talks on a high-level inter-Korean conference. The government made the proposal April 27. Likely socio-political changes in the North following the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly meeting on May 24 were also discussed.

North Korean Students in ROK Give Interview

SK0405014790 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 25 Apr 90 p 5

[Excerpts] On 23 April, YONHAP NEWS AGENCY held an interview with two North Korean students, Nam Myong-chol (25, Department of Computer Science, Leningrad University) and Pak Chol-chin (25, Department

of Computer Science, Leningrad University), who defected to Korea on 2 April while studying in the Soviet Union. They revealed that because of North Korea's serious economic crisis, most of the North Korean students studying in the Soviet Union and North Korean diplomats there, are intent on making "foreign currency" by making business deals, rather than concentrating on diplomatic affairs or studies. [passage omitted]

Diplomats and North Korean students studying in the Soviet Union are earning money by dealing in the business of purchasing such goods as North Korea's special products like ginseng or goods from Third World countries, bringing them into the Soviet Union, and selling them at an expensive price. Then, with that money, they buy Soviet goods that are needed in North Korea and sell them in North Korea, making huge profits for themselves. Therefore, when North Koreans in the Soviet Union meet each other, instead of a general greeting they say "How is business?"

Also in relation to North Korea's correspondence to the wave of reform among the East European communist countries, Mr. Nam and Mr. Pak said that Kim Chong-il gave special orders not to spare those who are going around spreading rumors. This is to prevent the spreading of news on foreign trends, democracy, or the economic development of Korea, by students who had studied abroad or diplomats who have returned to North Korea after completing their missions. [passage omitted]

[YONHAP] What is the recent relationship between the Soviet Union and North Korea?

[Answer] Since Soviet publications have criticized North Korea too candidly, there were many times when we were in an awkward situation, from the viewpoint of a North Korean. When the Soviet people asked about North Korea's system, we answered ambiguously by saying, "Let's not talk about politics." In a recent remark by Kim Chong-il on North Korea's diplomatic policy, in relation to the rapid change in the international society, he said, "Our relationship with China is that of a lips-and-teeth relationship, and our relationship with the Soviet Union is one to one."

Also, the staff of the North Korean Embassy in the Soviet Union are holding lectures for students studying there by making remarks on free elections in the East European bloc and criticizing the recent reform policy by the Soviet Union as, "Elections should be carried out to make work easy. Why are free elections being held?" "The Soviet Union is certainly moving toward the road of capitalism." However, they made those kinds of remarks as a matter of duty. We could feel that in their hearts they were making a positive judgment on the openness of the Soviet society.

[YONHAP] What is the atmosphere like in the North Korean Embassy in the Soviet Union?

[Answer] It is completely a place where business deals are being carried out. [passage omitted]

[YONHAP] What is the standard of North Korea's computers?

[Answer] Professors in North Korea perceive that its computers are about 10 years behind those of the Soviet Union's and that the standard of the computers in the Soviet Union is about 10 years behind that of Japan's. While majoring in computer science in North Korea, what we learned until the junior year was only the computer's basic language, FORTRAN.

There is one large-scale computer and about 20 personal computers at Kim Chaek University of Technology and only one to two computers each at the Central Trade Bank, the computer department of the Ministry of Railways, the State Planning Committee, and at the planning office of Pyongyang. Moreover, there are not many people who can use the computers. Thus, many computers are not in operation. We heard the rest of the computers are being used and operated by Korean residents in Japan.

Prosecution Asks 12-Year Sentence for Dissident

SK0305061290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0602 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—The prosecution demanded a 12-year prison term for a radical student leader charged with heading anti-government student activities Thursday [3 May].

Im Chong-sok, 24, a former chairman of Chondaehyop (the National Student Representatives' Council), is charged with eight counts of violating the National Security Law and the Law on Assembly and Demonstration.

Im headed Korea's largest dissident students' group when it sent Yim Su-kyong to North Korea last June as its representative at an international youth festival despite a government warning. He had been wanted for a long time by police for engineering anti-government student demonstrations and activities when he was arrested last December.

The prosecution said Im deserved to be dealt with harshly for sending Yim to North Korea without government approval and for organizing violent demonstrations, including a break-in at the headquarters of the now-defunct ruling Democratic Justice Party.

Im's trip to the North was an elaborate plot by Chondaehyop and anti-Seoul groups overseas in line with North Korea's policy to communize the South, the prosecutor said. But Im's lawyer responded that the festival in Pyongyang was an anti-imperialistic event participated in by students not only from socialist nations but also from Western and Third World nations and that Chondaehyop's participation was designed to reunify the Korean peninsula.

Some 150 of Im's relatives and student colleagues watched the trial at the Seoul Criminal District Court and jeered when the prosecution address was over.

A hero among student activists, Im appeared occasionally at anti-goverment rallies on campus and held news conferences while he was on the run.

Further on Reporter's Impressions of North

SK0405064190 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 1 May 90 p 15

[Second installment of report by U.S.-based correspondent Min Pyong-yong; for first installment, see 3 May East Asia DAILY REPORT p 13]

[Text] North Korea's elections were very different from ours. When in Pyongyang, I heard that 99.78 percent of all the voters participated in the elections for deputies to the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], and all of them voted for the registered candidates. This once again made me feel odd. Elections for deputies to the SPA are held once every four years just like elections for our National Assembly. However, in the elections here, only one candidate is nominated for each election district; candidates can register their candidacy in districts other than the district where one was born or is living; and candidates can register their candidacy without a party's nomination. I was surprised to hear the slogan "Let us all cast an approval ballot" and to see dance and song festivals taking place in front of polling stations. I was also surprised to see people pay respect to the portraits of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il.

When I arrived in Pyongyang on 10 April, I saw red banners and posters that read "Congratulations, elections! Let us all participate in the SPA elections to consolidate the revolutionary regime like a rock!" I also saw posters on which other slogans were written. It was reported that meetings were held every day in 687 election districts across the country to nominate peasants, working intellectuals, and soldiers as candidates. Artistic and documentary movies entitled "Birth of a New Regime," "New Country," and "To the End of the World" were shown in movie houses, thus heightening atmospheres for elections. It was extensively reported that Kim Il-song was nominated as a candidate in the No. 205 Nakwon Election District and that Kim Chong-il, at the No. 575 Musan Election District. I paid particular attention to the elections because North Korea moved up the elections by seven months in preparations for the winds of freedom in Eastern Europe and because it had been speculated that Kim Chong-il may be appointed as president or vice president after the elections.

Just like 15 April, the birthday of Kim Il-song, 22 April, the day of the elections, was designated as a holiday. Along with a guide, at 0930, I left Pyongyang Hotel, where I had been staying, and went to the No. 5 polling station—in Taedongmun-tong, Central District, Pyongyang—of the No. 9 Kyongsang Election District. A song festival was taking place on the grounds of the Taedongmun People's School, where not only some 250 voters but also children were gathered. The candidate in this district was Kim Ok-sim. It was said that she is a manager (whom we call president) of the First Pyongyang Department Store, which is located at the former site of Hwasin Department Store, and that she was nominated for reelection. She wore a Kim Il-song medal on her breast. I asked how she felt about being a candidate. She said: I will work hard for this district and the party. I am really grateful to the voters of this district and the president for again nominating me as a candidate for deputies even though I have not brought about any achievement to speak of.

Elections are held from 1000 in the morning until 2000 in the evening. However, it was said that almost all the voters (more than 17 years old) usually cast their ballots before noon.

I also went to the No. 44 polling station of the No. 12 Tongsong Election District. The candidate was Nam Sang-nak. A signboard read "Polling Station," and the background of this signboard was decorated with red flowers. Colorful lanterns were placed on the side on which the words "congratulations" were written. Voters lined up to vote, and singers were singing songs praising the country to the music of the bands. This way, the atmosphere was being heightened. Following a voter, I entered the polling station. The voter presented his identification card to members of the election committee who were sitting at the entrance of the polling station. When his name was confirmed, he received a voting paper on which only the name of the candidate was printed and entered into a small room. The portraits of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il and the North Korean flag were hung on the wall. There was a ballot box beneath the portraits and the flag. The ballot box was flanked by vases of azaleas. Voters express their approval by casting their ballots into this box. It is a custom for them to bow before the pictures of the two leaders. Of course, at the back of this ballot box, there are a pencil and a small box into which voters can cast dissenting votes.

If voters do not want to vote for the nominated candidate, they can cross the name of the candidate and cast it in that box. However, it was said that no voter has cast a dissenting vote because each candidate is nominated after extensive discussions. Outside, even old women and university students were continuously dancing with the joy of the "festive day of electing our deputies," thus adding to the amusement of the voters. This was what I saw on the day of the elections of deputies to the SPA, which are held every four years. I think that North Korea appears to heighten atmospheres to ensure that voters are not bored at the elections to simply cast an approval vote.

Over the radio, the Central Election Committee (headed by Kye Ung-tae) announced at 1400 that afternoon that "all the voters, except for those who are in foreign countries or on the distant sea, have voted. Sick, weak, and old people cast their ballots into mobile ballot

boxes." On 24 April, quoting the announcement of the Central Election Committee, NODONG SINMUN said, "All the 687 candidates were elected with the approval of 100 percent of the voters."

Pak Chang-kon, professor of the Chuche Academy of Sciences said: The president will deliver a policy speech at the first session of the Ninth SPA, which will soon be convened, and the second session will formally deal with the people's economic plan.

Prime Minister To Speak on 'Critical Problems'

SK0305134290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0725 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun will issue a statement at a news conference Friday [4 May] morning on pressing domestic issues, including inflation, labor disputes and a stock market plunge, a highly-placed official said Thursday.

Kang will explain government measures to solve those critical problems, which have led to the creation of what government officials describe as "a crisis in its entirety."

Kang will appeal to the public for cooperation to restore social discipline, the official said.

Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun, Home Affairs Minister An Ung-mo, Justice Minister Yi Chong-nam, Labor Affairs Minister Choe Yong-chol and Information Minister Choe Pyong-yol are expected to attend the news conference, he said.

PPD Calls for Economic Policy of Stability

SK0405022890 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 4 May 90 p 2

[Text] The Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] yesterday called for the return to the economic policy of pursuing stability first and growth later in a bid to arrest skyrocketing prices. The opposition party urged the government to refrain from trying to boost the economy by increasing the supply of money. The call was made after a meeting of party executives, presided over by senior vice president Choe Yong-kun.

The PPD demanded that President No Tae-u appear at the National Assembly to declare his extraordinary determination to combat the current crisis so that rival parties could come along with a resolution to back up the president.

Kim Tae-chung's party also called upon the administration to keep the lid on the increase of the total money supply at the level of 15 percent per year and to ensure the independence of the central bank by revising laws "at the earliest possible date."

To prevent real estate speculation which it claimed is the culprit in inflation, the PPD argued,the government should investigate the possession of land by big conglomerates and then induce them to sell off unessential land.

The opposition party called upon the government to curb the hike of utility rates, streamline the circulation structure of agricultural products and maintain the foreign exchange rate at a reasonable level.

DP Challenges By-Election Result in High Court

SK0405023490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 May 90 p 2

[Text] The nascent Democratic Party [DP] yesterday declared the result of the by-election in west Taegu's District A held April 3 null and void and brought the case to the Supreme Court.

Mun Hui-kap, former senior presidential secretary for economic affairs, was declared the winner in the controversial by-election.

In a legal complaint, party lawyer Chang Ki-uk said that there was evidence that the government mobilized illegal means to have former DJP [Democratic Justice Party] lawmaker Chong Ho-yong pulled out of the race.

At the same time, he maintained that a huge amount of election funds were illegally distributed to constituents by the public officials and incumbent lawmakers mobilized by the government inviolation of election laws.

He pointed out that party candidate Paek Sung-hong was forced into second place owing to these and other illegal election campaign means mobilized by Mun's campaigners and government officials.

Chang also said in his complaint that the by-election result should be declared null and void in order to ensure fair elections in the future.

Further on Labor Unrest, Strike Situation

Dailies Assess Labor Disputes

SK0305114590

[Editorial Report] On 1 and 2 May, Seoul vernacular papers carried editorials on the continuing labor disputes by the Korea Broadcasting System [KBS] and the Hyundai Heavy Industry Company.

CHUNGANG ILBO on 1 May carried a 1,500-word editorial on page 1 entitled, "Can't One See the Precipice Before One's Eyes?—Extreme Thoughts and Radical Confrontation Must Be Stopped." The editorial first elaborates on the current social, economic, and political situation we are faced with, saying that because of this "people's lives are fundamentally unstable." It notes that regardless of the difficult situation, politicians and government are only thinking about their own interests and have no interest in the livelihood of the people, making the situation more acute. The editorial says that the government and ruling party are primarily responsible for the continued confusion in the state of affairs. It notes that "the government and the ruling party are not wholly responsible, but the confusion and danger which

our country is experiencing are elements leading to a transitional turning point." In the concluding paragraph, the editorial says that "in order to stop extreme thoughts and radical confrontation, the people's wisdom and patience are necessary. If politicians, civil servants, businessmen, and workers do not go back to their work places and maintain their composure, and do not remain faithful to their work, this difficult crisis cannot be overcome."

CHOSON ILBO on 2 May carried a 900-word editorial on page 3 entitled, "Now Is the Time To Make a Decision." The editorial expresses much surprise in the "impatience and recklessness of the authorities who ordered the riot police" to stop the striking KBS laborers. It goes on to say that nothing was gained by "the authorities' ordering in the riot police." It says that, "What is most important is that, if the authorities had put an end to the KBS incident earlier," it would have been possible to prevent the collective series of struggles by the workers of other companies. It notes that "the authorities lacked wisdom in comprehendinging the situation of the strikes being carried out by the Hyundai Heavy Industry Company and KBS." It notes "what is urgently demanded is specific intervention by the political leadership, including President No Tae-u." It refers to the KBS incident as one which can drive our economy and society into crisis. In the concluding paragraph it says that the "president must bring about a turning point in this situation and carry out bold decisions by driving a wedge in this incident."

HANGUK ILBO on 2 May carried a 900-word editorial on page 2 entitled, "Critical Situation of Broadcasting Which Is Faced With Crisis—It Is Time To Be Released From Formalities and Move Forward To Solve the Problem." The first part of the editorial notes the current situation which is in a chaotic state. It also notes the KBS labor dispute, where there is no sign of compromise. The editorial criticizes other companies carrying out strikes in relation to the KBS incident. It says that the government should also "show resolute changes" and make concrete plans to carry out "democratic broadcasting." In the concluding paragraph it hopes that "today's situation can be faced rationally" so that the current crisis of our country can be solved as soon as possible.

SEOUL SINMUN on 2 May carried a 900-word editorial on page 2 entitled, "What Are We Supposed To Do?" Referring to the continued labor disputes by the workers of KBS and the Hyundai Heavy Industry Company, it asks "what in the world do they want to prove by these kinds of disputes," which are turning society into a state of confusion and making the lives of the people difficult.

'Crackdown' Targets Union Leaders

SK0405015890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 May 90 p 1

[Text] Alarmed by the recent string of serious labor disputes, authorities have decided to get tough with union leaders who espouse illegal union activities, prosecutors said yesterday.

The thrust of the prosecution crackdown will be on the banned radical labor alliance, "Chonnohyop [National Council of Labor Unions], according to prosecutors. The prosecution, in this regard, made public yesterday the names of 32 Chonnohyop leaders and heads of Chonnohyop-affiliated trade unions, who are being investigated or searched for. The prosecution said it has already started looking into 14 Chonnohyop leaders on suspicion of organizing illegal union activities. The 14 include Kim Yong-tae, acting president of the alliance, two vice presidents and secretary-general Choe Tong-sik. Investigators are also searching for another Chonnohyop vice president, Hyon Chu-ok, and auditor Kim Hak-tu with arrest warrants.

Besides the Chonnohyop leaders, the prosecution is seriously considering bringing criminal charges against 18 labor activists, most of them leaders of their respective trade unions. Prosecutors aid they are taking a hard look at the alliance because it has been engineering extreme labor protests since its establishment last January in defiance of a government ban. Among the 18 people on the prosecution watchlist are Choe Yong-min, president of the Kangwon Industrial Co. union; Kim Pyong-oh, president of the Hyosung Machinery Co. union; Kim Kyong-man, a leader of the Daelim Motor co. union; and Kim Chong-hun and two other leaders of the Tongil Co. union.

Chonnohyop, which claims a nationwide membership of 200,000 workers, called for a national strike last Tuesday in commemoration of May Day in the latest of a series of efforts to organize massive labor protests. No more than 18 trade unions across the country, however, heeded the call, according to the labor Ministry.

Chonnohyop President Tan Pyong-ho and 10 other leaders have already been jailed for establishing the outlawed alliance and leading illegal labor activities.

"It is our judgment that the present labor unrest partly results from the instigation of some leftist and extreme forces that want to topple the free democratic system," a high-ranking prosecutor said. The government will deal sternly with them from the standpoint of national security, the prosecutor said. The government's switch to a hard-line policy was also confirmed yesterday as Prosecutor-General Kim Ki-chun called in relevant prosecutors from across the country for an emergency meeting. Kim told the prosecutors not to hesitate in bringing criminal charges against those who are engaged in illegal labor protests. The top prosecutor said mass monthly

leaves, unjustified boycotts of overtime work and many other forms of protest workers claim are legal are in conflict with labor laws.

His remarks came while unions of nationally circulated dailies and the YONHAP NEWS AGENCY are moving to stage strikes in a show of sympathy for the KBS [Korea Broadcasting System] workers. Korea's other TV network, MBC [Munhwa Broadcasting Corp] also went on strike early this week to protest the police raid on the headquarters of the state=run Korea Broadcasting System Monday night. The KBS unionists are demanding the resignation of the network's government-appointed president, So Ki-won. The MBC and CBS workers will remain on strike until coming Sunday and Monday, respectively.

Prosecutors were told to take a closer look at unrest at hospitals, defense industry companies and coal mines.

KBS Strike Shows 'No Sign of Ending'

SK0405022090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 4 May 90 p 3

[Text] The broadcasting stoppage shows no sign of ending at the state-run Korea Broadcasting System [KBS] that has been crippled with walkouts by unionized workers demanding the release of 11 colleagues who were arrested in a recent police raid on the KBS Yoido headquarters.

Most of some 6,500 KBS employees reported to offices yesterday, but about 1,000 unionized workers stayed away from work.

About 700 KBS unionists, encouraged by sympathy strikes by their colleagues in the Munwha Broadcasting Corporation and the Christian Broadcasting System, tried in vain to stage in sit-in protests.

Some 2,000 riot troopers were deployed in and outside the KBS main building and its nearby annexed International Broadcasting Center to take action. Brief skirmishes, however, took place when police blocked a gathering by union workers in the IBC lobby. But police action was reserved as unionists pledged to disperse voluntarily.

Union workers, after retreating from the lobby, tried to gather in corridors and open studios, demanding the step-down by new KBS head So Ki-won, whose appointment by President No Tae-u touched off the 19-day massive strike which ended up with the police raid last Monday.

About 300 union staffers from KBS provincial stations,in the meantime gathered at the KBS annex building, about one kilometer away from the KBS headquarters.

Kim U-chol, a bureau chief, said that non-union staffers set up emergency tasks to bring broadcasting back to normal. Senior broadcasters are replacing union members to host news and other live programs, he said.

Meanwhile, five out of the 12 members of the KBS board of directors said they would regign taking responsibility for the prolonged stoppage of normal broadcasting.

The reform-seeking directors said they failed to form a majority opinion to ask the chief of state, who has the right to appoint and dismiss KBS heads, to replace So as a moderate figure to lead the state-run broadcasting network.

Ruling Party Hit by Strike

SK0405030490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0128 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—Some 150 ruling party staffers walked off the job Thursday afternoon to protest appointments based on politics rather than ability and other due factors.

The wildcat strike began at 1 P.M. and comes at an awkward time for the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), which will have a national convention in four days. The staff issued a statement that said personnel appointments May 1 were decided by political bargaining among the DLP factions and ignored the careers, education and age of candidates.

The strikers, who all come from the former ruling Democratic Justice Party, met Friday morning to work out their next move. Some 30 clerical staff from Kim Chong-pil's DLP faction urged the party to rescind the appointments, claiming that they had suffered adverse treatment.

DLP Secretary-General Pak Chun-pyong said he would take firm steps against those playing leading roles in the walkout.

Staff with responsibility for the May 9 convention are expected to return to work Saturday as a result of talks with DLP Vice Secretary-General Chang Kyong-u on Thursday. The DLP was created by the merger of three parties in February.

Clerical Workers Join Strike

SK0405052590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0509 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—Some 100 typewriters, secretaries, and accounting clerks at the ruling party's secretariat went on strike Friday [4 May] morning in sympathy with about 150 staffers who walked out Thursday to protest "political bargaining" among factions in making appointments.

Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) staff are demanding that job appointments made May 1 be rescinded and that the decision-making process be explained. The strikers, from the former ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP), met Friday morning to work out their next move.

The DLP was created in February by the merger of the DJP, Kim Yong-sam's Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) and Kim Chong-pil's New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP).

Leaders of the government party have taken a hard line on the work stoppage, ordering the strikers to unconditionally and immediately return to work and repeatedly saying organizers of the protest would be harshly punished. Some 30 staff from the NDRP are also complaining about the appointments but did not participate in the walkout.

Ministry Report on Unrest

SK0405055290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0525 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (OANA-YONHAP)—A drastic reduction in industrial unrest in South Korea has been shattered with a wave of strikes at the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) and the Hyundai shipyard, a Labor Ministry report said Friday.

There were 99 labor disputes up until May 2, compared with 588 in the same period last year, according to a report submitted to the National Assembly Labor Committee.

More than 80 percent of the disputes last year were protests or sit-ins, and 17.9 percent of this disputes this year led to radical actions, the report said. But 19 disputes erupted on April 28, when KBS and the shipyard were hit by strikes, a sharp upturn from four on April 15, the report said. The sharp increase showed that strikes at KBS and Hyundai have had a negative impact on other industrial sectors, the report said.

It also said 1,042 out of 6,780 workplaces with more than 100 employees have finished wage negotiations with their trade unions and the average pay raise was 8.2 percent, far below 16.3 percent averaged last year.

Some 47,000 workers from 45 labor unions, including 8,378 from 28 unions that answered a May Day strike call by the National Alliance of Trade Unions (NATU), were still on strike as of Thursday, a ministry spokesman said. About 39,000 workers from 17 unions staged walkouts before the NATU call was made on April 30, the spokesman said. But NATU, which the government refuses to recognize, claims more than 92,000 workers joined its strike to protest the police crackdown on strikers at the giant Hyundai shipyard in Ulsan and accuses the government of falsifying the number of strikers.

Labor unions still on strike are eight from Seoul, five from Masan and Changwon in the South, and eight from Puchon and two from Inchon west of Seoul, according to the spokesman.

KOTRA Says Wages Higher Than Asian Rivals

SK0305062690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0617 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—South Korea's workers were paid more than their counterparts in Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong last year, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) said Thursday [3 May].

Monthly wages averaged 805 U.S. dollars in Korea, 802 dollars in Taiwan, 732 dollars in Singapore and 556 dollars in Hong Kong in 1989, according to KOTRA.

Working hours per month in Korea were 214 (for a rate of 3.76 dollars an hour), in Taiwan 204 (3.93 dollars an hour), in Singapore 198 (3.69 dollars an hour) and in Hong Kong 208 (2.67 dollars an hour), it said. Japan worked 175 hours a month.

Pay in Korea is about one-third the level in Japan and the United States, but it is still relatively high since Korea's Gross National Product (GNP) is one-fourth of that of developed nations, it said.

Wages rose 21.1 percent last year, five or six times the rate in advanced nations and nearly two times the rate of Korea's Asian competitors, KOTRA said.

Korea's nominal pay raise rate between 1987 and 1989 was 39.9 percent overall and 49.6 percent in the manufacturing sector, but productivity grew only 11.6 percent, KOTRA said.

Royalty Payments Increase as Trademarks Sought

SK0405084790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0811 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—South Korean companies paid 1.12 billion U.S. dollars in royalties to foreign firms last year, up from 815 million dollars in 1988 and 574 million dollars in 1987, the Bank of Korea said Friday [4 May].

Royalty payments for trademarks and technology amounted to 294 million dollars in the first quarter of this year alone, up 28.5 percent from the same period last year.

Bank officials said they expect the sum to reach 1.5 billion dollars by the end of the year. The sharp rise in royalty payments is the result of increased introduction of foreign brands by manufacturers, especially by makers of clothes and foods, they said.

So far, 4,715 trademarks have been introduced for use in domestic production—2,203 from the United States, 596 from Japan, 391 from West Germany and 359 from Britain.

Government To Hike Imports of Beef, Cement

SK0405020690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0148 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—The government has decided to import 500,000 tons of steel reinforcement

bars and 282,000 tons of cement by the end of June to offset a domestic shortage and curb inflation.

The decision came Thursday as a special meeting of government officials at the Economic Planning Board discussed measures to fight inflation.

It was also decided to cut tariffs for steel reinforcements from 5 percent to 2-3 percent.

The government will delay public construction projects worth some 500 billion won (710 million U.S. dollars) until after the third quarter to reduce consumption of construction materials. In another move, it will sell state rice at less than the market price in order to stabilize the price of rice.

The government will seek to import of 58,000 tons of quartered beef to increase the daily supply from 200 tons to 250 tons and push down the price of Korean cattle from 2 million won to 1.7 million won a head. It is also considering tax benefits for importing cement, hot coil and petrochemical products that are in serious short supply.

Accord Signed With Hungarian Computer Institute

SK0405013090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 May 90 p 3

[Text] The Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) set up a scientific cooperation agreement with Hungary's Computer and Automation Research Institute yesterday.

The accord was signed in Seoul by KIST President Pak Won-hui and Laszlo Keviczky, director of the Hungarian institute.

The agreement calls for the two institutes to exchanges research personnel and technical information, and promote joint research projects regarding manufacturing automation, process control and other areas of mutual interest.

The computer and automation institute is the second-largest of 26 research centers affiliated with the hungarian Academy of Sciences, according to KIST officials.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Turkish Foreign Minister Makes Three-Day Visit

Meets With Abu Hassan

BK0205145490 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Malaysia and Turkey are in the final stage of preparing two agreements on taxation and investment which are expected to help boost bilateral trade. Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said that senior officials of the two countries would meet in Turkey in the near future to prepare drafts for an agreement on avoidance of double taxation and an agreement on investment guarantee. He said that the signing of these agreements would be a positive step toward boosting Malaysian-Turkish trade. He was speaking to newsmen in Kuala Lumpur after meeting his counterpart, Dr. Ali Bozer. Dr Bozer, who is leading a five-man delegation, arrived today for a three-day visit. The 30 minute-meeting with Datuk Abu Hassan was followed by two hours of talks between their delegations.

Datuk Abu Hassan said that Turkey was interested in joint ventures in processing palm oil and natural rubber for European and African markets as well as in the furniture industry.

Calls on Deputy Prime Minister

BK0305125990 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Turkish Foreign Minister Dr. Ali Bozer called on Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Ghafar Baba as part of a three-day visit to this country. During the meeting, which lasted for about 30 minutes, they discussed various subjects pertaining to efforts to further strengthen diplomatic and trade relations between the two countries.

Prof. Dr. Ali Bozer will also visit the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority and other industrial estates around the Federal Territory and Selangor.

Accompanying the Turkish foreign minister's delegation are Turkish businessmen and that country's ambassador to Malaysia, Mr. Unaydin Tevfik. Prof. Dr. Ali will leave for home tomorrow.

DPRK Vice Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

BK0305094490 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0915 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 3 (OANA/BERNAMA)—North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Cha Pong-chu arrived here Thursday on a five-day official visit.

Cha, who called on Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar soon after his arrival, will hold talks with Abu Hassan's deputy Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan on Friday. Cha will leave for Jakarta on May 7.

Meets With Abu Hassan

BK0305154690 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Malaysia maintains a neutral stand on the reunification of the two Korean nations, but emphasizes that any step toward this end must bring about meaningful peace. The Malaysian stand was aired by Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar during a meeting with North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Mr. Cha Pong-chu at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today, an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs told newsmen following the meeting between the two leaders. Datuk Abu Hassan urged South Korea and North Korea to make greater compromises toward achieving the reunification of the two nations. He cited as an example the two German nations, which are now negotiating their reunification.

Mr. Cha arrived in Kuala Lumpur today for a five-day visit as part of his tour of countries in the region. Mr. Cha expressed support for Malaysia's efforts to enhance South-South economic relations, including Malaysia's move to host a summit of the Group of 15 next month.

Japanese Defense Minister Pays Two-Day Visit

BK0405065490 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Japanese Minister of State for Defense Mr. Yozo Ishikawa has arrived in Kuala Lumpur for a two-day visit to Malaysia. He was met on arrival at the Kuala Lumpur international airport by Deputy Defense Minister Datuk Haji Abang Abu Bakar Abang Mustafa, Ministry of Defense Secretary General Datuk Nasruddin Bahari, and the Armed Forces Chief General Tan Sri Hashim Mohamed Ali.

Mr. Ishikawa is scheduled to call on Minister of Defense Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen at the ministry this afternoon.

Tomorrow he will call on Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba and visit the Royal Military College in Sungai Besi before leaving for home.

Regional Security Discussed

OW0405064990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0555 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 4 KYODO—Japan's Defense Agency chief, Yozo Ishikawa, plans to visit Washington for talks with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney on the security situation in the Asia-Pacific region, Japanese agency sources said here Friday.

The two defense leaders also plan to discuss Japan's new defense buildup program and greater cost-sharing for

U.S. armed forces in Japan. The meeting, likely to be held in June, will be the first meeting of the two men in their current posts, the sources said. Ishikawa, state minister for defense, became the agency's director general in February.

The U.S. Defense Department announced plans in April to reduce its troops in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines, which now total 135,000. The Pentagon is seeking reductions of more than 10 percent over the next three years and likely will seek more over the next decade. The reductions have prompted discussions in Japan and in other countries in the region about the future security situation in Asia- Pacific.

Ishikawa arrived here earlier Friday from Bangkok on the final leg of a five-day tour, which has brought him to Australia and Thailand. It is the first time the agency's chief has visited the three countries since the end of World War II.

The sources said Ishikawa plans a U.S. visit soon after the current Diet session is over, probably in June. He also intends to visit South Korea, sources said. If he does, it would be the first such visit by a Defense Agency chief in 11 years.

The sources said the government will work out a 1991-1995 defense buildup program by mid-September on the basis of a key defense program guideline adopted in 1976. Ishikawa has said the defense charter will be maintained though the security situation in the region has changed and East-West tensions have eased globally.

In a policy speech made in Bangkok Thursday, Ishikawa said the Soviet Union's military presence in East Asia is "enormous" and that the country has built up its armed forces in the region, in quality if not quantity. "The Soviet Union should slash its armed forces in Asia unilaterally and substantially," Ishikawa said in the statement, and described the Soviet military presence as a key factor of security instability in the region.

Foreign Minister Rebuts UNHCR Allegations

BK0405064390 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar has described recent criticisms against Malaysia for failing to comply with an international agreement on Vietnamese boat people as undeserved and unwarranted. The United States and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have claimed that Malaysia is turning away Vietnamese boats by violating the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) adopted by the Geneva Conference last June which stipulates continued temporary asylum.

Addressing the Malaysian International Press Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Abu Hassan said the campaign is undeserved especially against the country which has been a mainstay in providing temporary refuge to the Vietnamese boat people. He said while Malaysia has been urged to continue with temporary refuge, certain fundamental provisions of the CPA are ignored by certain countries for lack of political will. He referred to the continued clandestine departures from Vietnam and the non-implementation of forced repatriation of boat people rejected for resettlement.

Datuk Abu Hassan stressed that the Malaysian Government will continue to seek an early solution to the boat people problem regardless of the unfair criticisms the country faces.

Malaysia has provided temporary refuge to more than 250,000 Vietnamese boat people for 15 years. There are currently 20,000 Vietnamese in transit camps.

More SRV Boat People Leave Under UN Program

BK0205054990 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0509 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 2 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Another group of 22 Vietnamese boat people Wednesday [2 May] left for Vietnam under a United Nations-sponsored voluntary repatriation programme, bringing to 79 the total number who have opted to leave Malaysia. The group, which comprised males aged between 14 years and 66 years, left aboard a MAS [Malaysian Airlines System] flight for Ho Chi Minh City. This is the fourth batch of Vietnamese voluntary repatriates from Malaysia since the programme was started by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) last year.

UNHCR field officer, Alan Vernon, who is accompanying the 22 Vietnamese, told reporters at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport that 95 more boat people are awaiting approval from Vietnam to return while another 90 have applied to do so.

Vernon said all the members of the latest group of repatriates arrived after the March 14 cut-off date last year after which new arrivals are required to be screened to determine whether they are genuine refugees eligible for resettlement or economic migrants who face deportation.

Members of the group were given an initial US$50 each and clothing by the UNHCR. In Vietnam, they will be given US$30 a month plus other material items for a year to help them reintegrate.

Abu Hassan Outlines Foreign Policy for 1990's

BK0405090190 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Malaysia's foreign policy in the 1990's will be to ensure that the country's security, access to markets, and ability to absorb investments and technology are not affected by the current global political and economic changes. Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said the new decade with its opportunities for world peace

and economic progress brings more political and economic challenges to the country. He said this in his keynote address on Malaysian foreign policy in the 1990's at a dinner organized by the Malaysian International Affairs Forum in Kuala Lumpur.

Datuk Abu Hassan stressed that Malaysia will have to play a more active role in international affairs to meet these challenges. The country is confident it can successfully adapt to the global changes.

Datuk Abu Hassan said that the dramatic collapse of post-war communist regimes in Eastern Europe was unimaginable a few months ago. He believed that the Soviet Union would become inward-looking; it will need a more peaceful and stable international environment to pursue reform and economic development. As a result, the Soviet presence in the region will be more defensive than offensive. A reduction of superpower presence promises a particular challenge to Southeast Asian countries, and stable security has been an important factor for the region's rapid economic growth.

Datuk Hassan said ASEAN, which will remain the cornerstone of Malaysia's foreign policy, should adapt to these changes to ensure its effectiveness. ASEAN especially needs to evolve a common consensus on regional security issues. The regional grouping should also be (?willing) to expand economic cooperation to avoid fighting each other for shrinking markets as the international economic environment becomes more competitive. He suggested that the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta be expanded to provide for these changes. The secretariat could operate like the Commonwealth Secretariat in initiating programs or as an information center on business opportunities in the region.

Datuk Abu Hassan said Malaysia will actively pursue the ASEAN concept of a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality—ZOPFAN—given the decline in superpower rivalry. The ZOPFAN mechanism will be useful in regulating not only any future big power rivalry but also any rivalry between states in the region. Malaysia will also help integrate post-Cambodia Indochina into the regional political and economic system.

Referring to the future of American bases in the Philippines, he said Malaysia appreciates the U.S. role in the region and hopes that the bases issue will be solved amicably. In its view, it is more important that the close bilateral ties between the United States and ASEAN countries be maintained and not eroded by trade friction and protectionism.

Singapore

'Goddess of Democracy' To Head for Hong Kong

BK0205162390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1611 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Singapore, May 2 (AFP)—The ship planning to broadcast pro-democracy programs to China will change course and head for Hong Kong instead of Taiwan, a project organiser said here Wednesday [2 May].

Organisers of the "Boat for China" project had not received any response from Taiwan about whether the Goddess of Democracy could berth there, organizer Christophe Nick told a news conference here late Wednesday. He also said earlier that the ship was harassed by Chinese commercial vessels as it neared Singapore.

"For one and a half months we have been requesting permission from the Taiwan Government to berth there and we have not had any reply so far. We also asked several organisations and prominent individuals in Taiwan for help and we have not heard anything from them," he said.

Mr. Nick said he would now contact Hong Kong port authorities to obtain permission for the boat to berth in the British colony. "We shall be contacting the Hong Kong authorities as soon as we set sail from Singapore within the next few hours," said Mr. Nick, also a journalist with the French magazine ACTUEL, one of 19 publications, including two from Taiwan, supporting the project. "We are hopeful that Hong Kong will give us permission," said Mr. Nick.

Asked what the ship would do if Hong Kong refused permission, Mr. Nick said, "We will first wait for their answer." There was no immediate comment from Taiwan on the issue, but an official there said Monday that the ruling Kuomintang (KMT) was trying to decide whether to permit the ship to call on Taiwan's ports for provisions and technical supplies.

On threats by the Chinese Government that it would try to prevent the ship from broadcasting programs to China, Mr. Nick said the crew and other journalists on board were not afraid of it. Mr. Nick declined to say what plans organizers had prepared should China take firm action against the ship.

Mr. Nick said the purpose of the mission was to tell the people in China what happened during the crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing last June 4. "The whole world knew what the Chinese Government and the Chinese Army did, but not the Chinese people. We want to relay radio messages to the Chinese people to keep them informed," he said.

"The project is sponsored by the media and we have about 20 journalists on board. Our job as journalists is to inform," Mr. Nick said.

The vice-captain of the ship Ceile Corre, 26, spoke of her experience with a Chinese ship in the Straits of Malacca as it neared Singapore waters. Ms. Corre, the youngest officer in the French Navy, said a Chinese cargo ship harassed the boat Tuesday and came "within half a nautical mile. I had to steer clear to avoid any incidents."

She said the ship was delayed in arriving in Singapore because of a storm in the Indian Ocean and not because of any incidents.

The 1,200-tonne Goddess of Democracy arrived here at 3 A.M. Wednesday morning (1900 GMT Tuesday). It is anchored within Singapore waters but outside port limits. Mr. Nick said he had no difficulty obtaining permission from the Singapore authorities to berth here and take in supplies.

In Taiwan Monday, the KMT's overseas department director John Chang said: "Of course we support freedom and democracy and are trying to spread the ideas to the mainland. "But as a responsible ruling party, we must take situations across the Taiwan Strait into serious consideration in order to maintain peace between the two sides," he added.

Whether Taiwan accepted the vessel would depend on further studies after the boat made a formal application to call on local ports, Mr. Chang said. Mr. Chang's remarks contradicted those of Communications Minister Chang Chien-pang who said last week the Goddess of Democracy ship would be allowed to enter Taiwan's northern Keelung port.

Departs on 3 May

BK0305034090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0324 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Singapore, May 3 (AFP)—The dissident radio ship, Goddess of Democracy, left Singapore early Thursday [3 May], a port spokesman said. The spokesman was unable to say exactly at what time the ship set sail out of Singapore waters and where it was heading for.

At a meeting with the foreign press in Singapore late Wednesday Christophe Nick, an organiser of the "Boat for China" project, said that the ship had decided to change course and head for Hong Kong first instead of Taiwan. "For one and a half months we have been requesting permission from the Taiwan Government to berth there and we have not had any reply so far. We also asked several organisations and prominent individuals in Taiwan for help and we have not heard anything from them," Mr. Nick said.

He said he was hopeful that the Hong Kong authorities "will give us permission" to dock there and would not speculate on what action would be taken if they refused.

After delays caused by a heavy storm in the Indian Ocean, the 1,200-tonne Goddess of Democracy arrived in Singapore waters early Wednesday (1900 GMT Tuesday) but was berthed outside port limits with a Singapore marine police boat patrolling nearby.

Mr. Nick said Wednesday that the ship was harassed by Chinese commercial vessels in the Mediterranean Sea, the Straits of Malacca and on the approaches to Singapore. The vice-captain, Cecile Corre, 26, said at the meeting that a Chinese cargo ship Tuesday "came within half a nautical mile. I had to steer clear to avoid any incidents."

Mr. Nick, a journalist for the French magazine ACTUEL, said that the purpose of the mission was to tell people in China what happened during the crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing last June 4.

The Goddess of Democracy is backed by the Paris-based Chinese dissident group, the Federation for a Democratic China and the whole project is sponsored by 19 civilian newspapers and several press groups in various countries.

Criticized by PRC Journalist

OW0305074490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0655 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Singapore, May 3 KYODO—A Singapore-based journalist of China's state-run XINHUA NEWS AGENCY denounced Wednesday the "Goddess of Democracy" radio ship, saying its broadcasts will attempt to subvert the Chinese Government. "The ship is aimed at creating chaos, disorder, subversion, and demagoguery in China. They want, by this way, to overturn the Government of the People's Republic of China," Li Yong Ming said in a statement distributed at a news conference held here Wednesday night.

The radio ship, carrying a 10-member crew and nine journalists, left Singapore Thursday after arriving to pick up supplies Wednesday. The ship began sailing under a Caribbean flag from France on March 17. It will broadcast radio programs to people in China from international waters off the Chinese coast.

Li earlier opposed the news conference, organized by the Foreign Correspondents Association. A member of that group, Li said it should not get involved in political activity.

When members of the association voted to go ahead with the news conference after their annual general meeting, Li distributed his statement of opposition and walked out of the meeting. He also said the radio ship, by broadcasting from the high seas, is breaking international laws.

During the news conference, Cecile Corre, the ship's chief mate, said the crew was harassed by a Chinese merchant ship two days earlier while they were sailing down the Straits of Malacca. "It was very close," she said. We had to change our course to avoid something like a collision. I can't say what would have happened if I had not changed my course."

The ship does not yet carry a transmitter for broadcasting. Christophe Nick, a reporter for the French magazine, ACTUEL, one of 19 magazines sponsoring the ship, said the crew planned to sail to Hong Kong for transmitters.

They plan to broadcast their programs around-the-clock starting on May 23, he said. The ship would carry two transmitters—one for medium-wave broadcasts and another for short-wave. Nick, 31, said it would cost about 200,000 U.S. dollars to broadcast for one month from the ship.

According to reports, China has not ruled out the use of force to stop the broadcasts.

Nick, who said he was in China during the Tiananmen Square democracy protests last June, said: "It's important to report to the (Chinese) people what happens in this country. They are alone in Asia. The only people who can do something is us," he said.

Cambodia

Phnom Penh Appeals for Support Against Pol Pot

BK0305015690 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Undated PRACHEACHON commentary: "We Welcome the Sympathy of the International Community Which Contributes to Advancing the Search for a Peaceful Solution in Cambodia"]

[Text] Through the successive implementation of Australia's proposals on the United Nations participation in the election process in Cambodia, a flurry of diplomatic activities emerged in April aimed at advancing the search for a correct political solution to the Cambodian problem.

The Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's visit to Japan in early April; the Australian Deputy Foreign Minister Michael Costello's visit to a number of Southeast Asian countries such as Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand; successive statements by the West, as by Italy and the EC, to withdraw support from the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea which illegally occupies Cambodia's seat in the United Nations; visits by the U.S. Senate and House delegations; the visit by the New Zealand ambassador accredited to Vietnam and Thailand; the visit by the EC Parliament delegation headed by former French foreign minister Claude Cheysson; and successive visits by UN technical missions to the State of Cambodia, clearly show world sympathy for the State of Cambodia—the only force capable of preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Although these countries have not yet reached the point of officially recognizing the State of Cambodia's Government, after fact-finding visits to Cambodia they have all adopted correct attitudes on the Cambodian issue. Upon arrival in the State of Cambodia, they held detailed talks with Comrade Chairman Hun Sen on the role of the United Nations in Cambodia, the prevention of the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return, as well as the issue of the Cambodian people's sovereignty and foreign countries' assistance for reconstruction.

All these are concrete activities that clearly show even more the positive changes of attitudes of many countries' governments toward the State of Cambodia's Government. These activities will certainly quickly further a political solution to the Cambodian problem and peacefully end its protracted and bloody war. We highly praise and welcome the just sympathy of the international community which has been supporting the Cambodian people's just struggle in the search for peace on the basis of a guarantee in preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. We firmly believe that in order to quickly reach a peaceful solution in Cambodia, countries involved in the Cambodian problem should further contribute and have clear and resolute principles to eliminate the genocidal Pol Pot group.

Chea Soth Speaks at Economic Institute Ceremony

BK0405081590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 May 90

[Summary] On the morning of 3 May at the Institute of Economic Science, a ceremony was held under the chairmanship of Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, to confer degrees on the institute's 190 students who have just successfully completed four and a half years of upper-level economic studies. Guests at the gathering were leading cadres from the Ministries of Planning, Industry, Education, and Communications, as well as Vietnamese and Cambodian instructors.

Following the report on the outcome of the course presented by Education Deputy Minister (Loy Kimheng), Chea Soth addressed the meeting by recounting achievements in the education field by the State of Cambodia over the past 11 years. He urged the new graduates to conscientiously fulfill their duties with a view to restoring and developing the country's economy and improving the people's living conditions. Chea Soth concluded his speech by praising, thanking, and exhorting the instructors, cadres, staff, and workers of the institute to intensify their endeavors to more effectively carry out their tasks of promoting the country's prosperity.

Later, a representative of the students voiced their resolute determination to remain faithful to the party and to achieve success in every task entrusted by the party and state. The ceremony ended with pride in an atmosphere of joy.

Agriculture Official Visits Banteay Meanchey

BK0405032290 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] With a view toward creating favorable conditions for the 7,500 refugee families consisting of 37,000 people who just returned from the Cambodian-Thai border, Comrade Pen Panhnha, head of the Cambodian Refugee Committee and deputy minister of Agriculture, recently paid a visit to Banteay Meanchey Province.

Following an intensive discussion with the provincial refugee committee led by Comrade It Loeu, deputy secretary and chairman, respectively, of the party committee and people's committee of Banteay Meanchey Province, it was decided to provide 2,500 hectares of farmland to the refugees for cultivation during the coming monsoon season. The Ministry of Agriculture agreed to supply gasoline for the tractors used to plow the land. Comrade Pen Panhnha said he would report the province's other propositions for promoting the living conditions of the refugees to higher level authorities.

Indonesia

Prime Minister Kaifu Arrives in Jakarta 4 May

OW0405105490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0912 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Jakarta, May 4 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu arrived in Jakarta Friday, the last leg of a five-nation Asian trip that has underscored Japan's increasing political muscle and foreign-aid diplomacy in the region.

When a special plane carrying the Kaifu party arrived at Jakarta Airport at 3:20 PM (5:20 PM Japan Time) [0820 GMT] after a five-hour flight from Colombo, he was greeted by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.

Kaifu was to pay courtesy calls on Indonesian President Suharto and Vice President Sudharmano shortly after arrival. Substantial talks on bilateral and regional relations will be conducted in a scheduled two-hour meeting with Suharto set for Saturday morning.

Japan's official position on the Kaifu visit is that the trip is aimed at underscoring Japan's commitment to ASEAN, the regional group which is currently chaired by Indonesia. According to Murdiono, the Indonesian state secretary, the talks between Kaifu and Suharto are expected to focus not only on bilateral relations but also on regional security, including the elusive peace settlement in Cambodia. The Japanese are arranging a meeting in Tokyo, set for early June, between Cambodian Premier Hun Sen and Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Japan's first substantial diplomatic effort since World War II to mediate in a regional conflict.

Kaifu also played diplomatic troubleshooter during his stops in India and Pakistan earlier this week, urging the two neighboring nations to negotiate a peaceful settlement to their dispute over the Kashmir issue.

Kaifu's visit to Indonesia comes amid a wave of growing worry by local officials that some of Japan's aid to Indonesia will be diverted to Eastern Europe to bolster economic reforms. Eastern Europe is also expected to feature in Kaifu's talks with Suharto, Murdiono said.

In talks with President Suharto, Kaifu plans to outline Japan's aid program to Indonesia for the current fiscal year, Japanese officials said. A full picture of the program will be unveiled at a conference of aid-donor countries to Indonesia that is slated to take place in June in The Hague.

Japanese diplomatic sources say the size of official aid Japan plans to extend to Indonesia for the current fiscal year will remain at the same level as last year.

Indonesia is the main beneficiary of Japan's aid program. Tokyo committed more than 2 billion dollars in official funds in both 1988 and 1989.

Kaifu also announced Japan's economic assistance program, by far the largest in Asia, during all his previous stops on the current trip, including 100 billion yen in official funds to India, 20 billion yen to Pakistan, and 27.4 billion yen to Bangladesh for development projects in these countries.

The level of foreign aid, however, is not Indonesia's only concern. Indonesian human rights groups have urged Japan to accommodate human rights concerns in its aid decisions. Japan's sizeable aid to Indonesia has encouraged the country's economic growth but such growth also can create monopolies, nepotism, and conglomerates, two major Indonesian human rights groups said in a statement handed over to the Japanese Embassy Wednesday.

The two groups had sought a meeting with Kaifu earlier this week but he declined the invitation. Japan's ambassador to Indonesia, Michihiko Kunihiro, said the Japanese Embassy is ready, however, to hand over the statement to Kaifu. The two groups are the Institute of the Defense of Human Rights and the Indonesian Front for the Defense of Human Rights. Both are nongovernment organizations with members consisting mostly of intellectuals and students.

Kaifu's stop in Jakarta is the fifth and last leg of a nine-day Asian tour that also took him to India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

He is set to return to Tokyo on Sunday.

Murdiono Comments on Visit

BK0405103090 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0923 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Jakarta, May 4 (OANA/ANTARA)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu arrived here Friday afternoon [4 May] aboard a JAL plane to start a three-day visit (from 4 may to 6) to Indonesia.

The 59 year-old prime minister was greeted at the Halim Perdanakusuma Military Airbase by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and other dignitaries. He directly proceeded to the Merdeka Palace, where he was honored 19 gun salutes, to meet President Suharto and Vice President Sudharmono.

Prior to the visit to Indonesia, Kaifu, who was inaugurated as prime minister on August 11, 1989, toured four Asian nations, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri lanka.

Official talks between President Suharto and Prime Minister Kaifu, which is expected to mainly focus on efforts to strengthen bilateral relations, is scheduled on Saturday (May 5).

Minister State Secretary Murdiono said Thursday (3 May) that during his stay here the Japanese prime minister, whose hobbies (?are) among other things collecting stamps and swimming, is expected not to introduce new requirements for Japan's foreign loans.

Minister Murdiono also said that Kaifu will not sign [word indistinct] assistance agreement during his visit to this largest archipelagic state in the world.

However, his three-day tour here is very important because it is made when the Indonesian economy is gaining momentum that will need strong bases to enter the six Pelita (Fifth Five Year Development Plan, 1994-99), the minister added.

Japan is Indonesia's single largest donor and trade partner. It contributed no less than [words indistinct] million U.S. dollars to the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI) last year. IGGI, which comprises 13 nations including France, Britain, the United States and the Netherlands, in 1898 provided a total assistance of 4,297 million U.S. dollars.

Kaifu Calls on Suharto

OW0405133490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1251 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Jakarta, May 4 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu arrived in Jakarta Friday, on the last leg of a five-nation Asian trip that has underscored Japan's increasing political muscle and foreign-aid diplomacy in the region.

Kaifu paid courtesy calls on President Suharto and Vice President Sudharmono shortly after his arrival from Colombo after a five-hour flight.

The Japanese premier was greeted by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas at the airport and was honored with a 19-gun salute in a welcoming ceremony at the Merdeka Presidential Palace.

Kaifu, accompanied by his wife Sachiyo and daughter Mutsumi, spent 30 minutes chatting with Suharto during the largely ceremonious courtesy call. Suharto expressed sympathy with Kaifu on the tight schedule of his nine-day trip, saying "You must be very tired from the tour."

Kaifu was to be the guest of honor at a banquet to be hosted by Suharto later in the day. Substantive talks on bilateral and regional relations will take place at a scheduled two-hour meeting with Suharto set for Saturday morning.

Accord on Chemical Venture With India Signed

BK0305045890 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0343 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Jakarta, May 2 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesia and India have reached an agreement to jointly build a plant which will produce chemical substances and pharmaceutical raw materials to meet domestic demand.

The agreement was signed here Tuesday [1 May] by representatives of the two countries, Ibnu Sutowo of the private business company Nugca Santana Group of Indonesia and I.G. Thingran of the Indian State Trading Corporation.

The cooperation was hoped to be able to reduce the country's dependence on imported chemical substances, besides encouraging the export of non-oil commodities.

The two sides agreed to jointly set up a one-million-US-dollar venture, the "Santana Chemitrade Indonesia", with a share ratio of 60 percent for Indonesia and 40 percent for India.

The joint venture was expected to be operational by July this year, producing chemical substances, pharmaceutical raw materials and dyes, which are needed by textile, leather, paper and pharmaceutical industries.

In the first stage, the chemical substances will be brought from India worth 25 percent cheaper than those Indonesia imported so far from Europe. In subsequent [word indistinct], Indonesia, with Indian technology will produce the chemicals to meet domestic consumption and for export.

The value of the country's import of chemical substances and dyes from Europe estimatedly stands at 100 million US dollars per annum, excluding the import of pharmaceutical materials.

Laos

Souban Salitthilat Addresses UN Meeting 27 Apr

BK0405093890 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] In his address at the UN special meeting on international economic cooperation on 27 April, Souban Salitthilat, deputy minister of foreign affairs and head of the delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, pointed out the special significance of this meeting to developing countries, which are now facing heavy tests, and reviewed the world economic crisis, as well as difficulties in developing countries. According to a report from New York, he also stressed that the implementation of economic reforms by many countries had failed to bring about economic expansion. On the contrary, some countries even suffered economic slumps. The International Monetary Fund and World Bank have no sufficient measures to cope with these crises that lead to an increase in debt for developing countries and

drastic price falls for their products. The existence of trade barriers has adversely affected the exports of developing countries.

Touching on economic expansion in Laos, Souban Salitthilat said that Laos has recognized the significance of national development. Since 1975, the Lao Government has concentrated its efforts on agricultural development while broadening the internal market and increasing economic cooperation with all countries. The Lao Government has taken many steps for economic restructuring in line with the international economic situation. He noted that the United Nations is the best venue to seek solutions to the current international economic problems, adding that this special meeting is a very crucial move in that direction.

Article Urges Vigilance in Public Security Work

BK0305122990 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 2 May 90

[Article by Chantai Phimmachan: "Vigilantly Carry Out Public Security Maintenance Work in the New Period"]

[Text] Under current circumstances, public security maintenance work has become our urgent duty because it involves the safeguarding of the rights, interest, and well-being of the entire people, cadres, and combatants. Public security maintenance work is a task and responsibility that every citizen must undertake, because peace and tranquillity are the permanent goals of all the people. If peace and tranquillity do not prevail in our country, our national interests and independence and our people's well-being will be adversely affected. Therefore, it is imperative that everyone participate in carrying out public security maintenance work with a sense of patriotism, heroism, voluntary awareness, and creativity.

The maintenance of public security must be carried out in all its aspects. In addition to defending our national territorial sovereignty, we must also carry out work in defending the party's lines and policies, the state's laws, and the people's entire socioeconomic life. If peace prevails in the political domain, the people's economic and cultural life will become stable and economic prosperity will be built and maintained. If public security maintenance is firm, it means that our nation will be strong as well.

Militant alliance still remains a must because our enemies are imperialists and international reactionaries. They are the common enemies of the three fraternal peoples of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia. Militant alliance gives us consolidated strength and enables our three peoples to mount simultaneous attacks against these common enemies in different locations. Therefore, we must strive to enhance our militant alliance to preserve special solidarity and everlasting comprehensive cooperation with the public security forces and peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia and with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

To fulfill this direction of public security maintenance work, we should pay attention to building the political and ideological strength of our armed forces and multiethnic people; to convincing everyone to appreciate and understand our party's lines and policies and to increase their confidence in the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party—the direct, ardent, and all-around organizer and leader of our armed forces; and to transforming the armed forces into an army that is extremely faithful to our party and country. The country maintains a sense of all-around revolutionary vigilance and gallantry, possesses a correct stand in identifying friends and foes, vigorously adheres to the public security maintenance principles, remains constantly alert in executing public security maintenance duties, possesses a high sense of patriotism and affection toward the people, and firmly grasps and effectively implements the party's line in maintaining public security so all-around and great victories can be scored.

To fulfill these objectives, our entire public security forces must vigorously turn to the grass roots, such as districts, cantons, and hamlets. Their movements carried out among the grass roots must be utilized as criteria in judging their leadership and command abilities as well as their relations with the masses. They must adopt a mass attitude, showing that the public security forces and the people are like fish and water and that the former will always realize the fact that they are the forces that safeguard peace for the people, come from the people, and totally serve the people. We must strive to build the public security forces into a strong force in all aspects. Quality must be the priority in doing this. Their organization must be firm from the grass-roots level upward. The party committees and the army commands at all levels must provide direct leadership to the armed forces and regard them as a decisive factor in winning all victories. Only the people's armed forces, which will always remain faithful to the party and country, are able to defend the party and to safeguard the people's sovereign power. No enemies will be able to defeat such revolutionary armed forces as ours.

Thus, it is the duty of all Lao citizens attached to all offices and organizations in all localities, all cadres, combatants, and people in general, to organize effective execution of their public security maintenance tasks with a strong sense of discipline. Patrols and security inspections must be regularly carried out in all offices, organizations, and hamlets. We must maintain a high sense of vigilance toward all designs of the enemies in trying to create disturbances and chaotic situations aimed at toppling our popular democratic system. We must be prepared to promptly, drastically, and effectively thwart such designs of the enemies.

'Ill-Intentioned Rumors' on Deaths Refuted

BK0305132990 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] On the morning of 28 April, Radio Australia carried a report, quoting Thai military sources, saying

that 42 person were killed in clashes between Lao Government forces and antigovernment rebel forces last month. One day earlier on 27 April, AFP in Bangkok, also citing Thai military sources, also said that some 40 persons had been killed in clashes occurring in the previous month in northern Laos between protesters and Lao Government troops.

We do not know the source of such reports, but we the Lao people and foreigners residing in Laos, who have regularly traveled the length and breadth of Laos, have never heard nor seen such incidents anywhere in Laos. The only thing we have witnessed is that the multiethnic Lao people are overwhelmingly happy with the party and state renovation policy and that people everywhere are concentrating their efforts on carrying out production, improving their living conditions, and energetically contributing to fulfilling their obligations toward the country. Peace and public order have been more firmly consolidated with every passing day.

Thus, such ill-intentioned rumors must have been premeditatedly fabricated by bad elements in Thailand with a view to fooling public opinion and obstructing investment in Laos in order to retard national development in this country. Such phenomena also show that the bad elements in Thailand have consistently given support and assistance to exiled Lao reactionaries and have smuggled them into Laos to create disturbances among the Lao people who are carrying out livelihood in peace. Therefore, the brotherly Lao and Thai peoples must unite even more closely to expose all the ill intentions of the bad elements in Thailand and to resolutely drive out all exiled Lao reactionaries from Thai soil for the sake of peace and well-being of the brotherly Lao and Thai peoples, especially those living along both sides of the border.

Leaders Send Sympathy to PRC After Earthquake

BK0405101390 Vientiane KPL in English 0854 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 4 (KPL)—Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Republic, Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the People's Supreme Assembly of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], have jointly sent a message of sympathy to Yang Shankun, president of the People's Republic of China, Li Peng, prime minister, and Wan Li, president of the People's National Assembly.

The message wrote:

"We have heard that the earthquake in Qinghai Province at the end of April has caused great loss to life and properties of the people in the region. On behalf of the government of the Lao PDR and on our own, we would like to express the sympathy to the government and people of the People's Republic of China, especially to the victims of the earthquake. We hope that under the leadership of the Communist Party of China and government of the People's Republic of China, the living condition of the people in the said region would be soon normalized."

Philippines

NPA Documents Reveal Threat to U.S. Servicemen

HK0205081190 Quezon City DWDD Defense Department Radio in Tagalog 0700 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Regional Command [Recom] 3, assisted by the Clark Air Base Command [Cabcom], is closely monitoring the activities of the New People's Army [NPA] in Olongapo City following disclosure of an NPA threat to liquidate U.S. servicemen and military officials in the two U.S. military bases, namely: Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base. The disclosure came from documents seized from an NPA regular member Dionisio Bandoy. The papers revealed that the NPA in Olongapo City has formed an assassination team to kill U.S. officials and embarrass the Philippine Government which is due to start exploratory talks with the United States on 14 May.

In an interview with DWDD News, Recom 3 chief Brigadier General (Marunduan) said that his command has stepped up security measures to foil the communist rebels' attempt.

Manglapus Clarifies Reports on Bases Talks Venue

HK0305120990 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 3 May 90

[From the "GMA news" program]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus today announced that the bases exploratory talks will be held in Manila. Manglapus issued the statement following reports stating that the talks will be held inside the U.S. bases in order to prevent journalists from attending. However, the secretary declined to name the venue of the talks for security reasons.

Editorial Views 'Common Voice' on Bases' Removal

HK0305050990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 3 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Common voice on U.S. bases: Remove them!"]

[Text] Two figures who played key roles in the national security setup during the Marcos regime and who are still prominent in government are both batting for the removal of United States military facilities on Philippine bases.

Former Defense Minister (now senator) Juan Ponce Enrile wants the bases out after the current lease runs out in September 1991, while incumbent Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos wants them removed after five to eight years.

As historical footnote, the Enrile-Ramos tandem figured in the military mutiny that presaged the EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] Revolt, but their political paths took different turns after 1986. Their ideas on the removal of the bases are far from original, but coming from them and close to the May 14 start of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. exploratory talks on the bases, they register as significant enough to fuel public comment. The two officials are eminently qualified to talk about the myriad implications of this country's hosting foreign bases.

Enrile not only wants the bases out promptly after the expiration of the current 44-year lease. He also wants the abrogation of the two countries' Mutual Defense Treaty for being useless. In fact, he said, the supposedly mutually beneficial treaty is actually one of the reasons for the inequity in the relations between America and its former colony. The anti-foreign base posture of Enrile, who has also aligned himself with the anti-nukes bloc in the Senate, is made more emphatic by his declaration that even in the event that Malacanang signs a new treaty, he would vote against it when it comes up for the requisite ratification.

On the other hand, while Ramos also favors removing the bases, he argues for a transition period of five to eight years during which Filipinos can adjust to the phaseout of the installations that have been a source of revenue and employment for a great number of Filipinos.

Ramos' logic is simple and, to us, painlessly acceptable. He raises the problem of dislocation, saying that we may not be ready for such a sudden pullout in 1991 (yes, it's already next year!). So, he suggests, why don't we give each other a chance to adjust to the disruptive effects of (1) to the natives, the withdrawal of a source of substantial income, and (2) to the tenants, the problems of developing alternate base sites.

(By coincidence, the position of Ramos is similar to the stance taken by the INQUIRER as early as two years ago, before the start of the Manglapus-Shultz talks. After an exhaustive study and a public service series, this paper came out for a five-year phaseout of the bases after 1991.)

We see a common thread (removal of foreign bases) in the positions of Enrile and Ramos. Although coming from opposite sides of the political fence, this common point is an indication of the growing conviction in Philippine official-dom that, indeed, foreign bases are an anachronism in this day and age. The earlier we woke up to that fact—and did something about it—the better for this newly restored democracy.

Ileto Rules Out U.S.-Malaysia 'Connivance'

HK0405043390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 4 May 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto does not believe that the United States and Malaysia are in connivance with each other over the establishment of a new naval base in Malaysia. Ileto made the statement in a radio interview.

[Begin Ileto recording] *I do not believe that they could be that scheming, putting up a base, a very expensive base just to satisfy one particular event which is the removal of the bases. They do not even have a direct say on it. We don't know it. Well, if we say that, then we can...[changes thought] next accusation is: The United States and Malaysia could be in connivance with this thing. I believe the arguments would lead to those things. I don't even want to say that this has anything to do with the bases. We don't know such things.* If we say that it was an agreement between the United States and Malaysia, the situation will be very bad for us. *And the more we suspect each other, the less it is for our progress.* [end recording]

Malaysia Responds to Question on Military Buildup

HK0305121390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said the government has received an explanation from the Malaysian Government on its military buildup in Sabah. Manglapus said the Malaysian Government assured that its action was mainly a security measure and not an offensive posture. The explanation was in response to the Philippine Government's communique sent to Malaysia.

Manglapus Urges Keeping Pace

HK0405044090 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 4 May 90 p 3

[By reporter Maria Luz Baguidro]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus yesterday urged the government to keep pace with defense improvements undertaken by neighboring countries like Malaysia. "We should take our own steps to make sure that any build-up on the part of neighboring countries does not result in any uneven situation," Manglapus said at a news conference.

Manglapus also punctured speculations that Malaysia covertly beefed up its naval strength. "The fact that it came from a magazine article shows there was no intention on the part of Malaysia to undertake anything surreptitious," he said.

He noted that the current improvements made on Kuala Lumpur's naval defenses form part of "a long-range program" dating back seven years ago. "Our officials in Kuala Lumpur have informally talked to various Malaysian officials and have received continued reassurance that this is so," he cited. According to Manglapus, "it is an initiative of the Malaysian government and perhaps, it is their right to take their own steps in their defense." Likewise, "it is our right to be concerned if it is near our territory." The two governments did not deal formally

with each other on this matter and "we see no reason to submit a formal request for clarification, he said.

In another development, Manglapus expressed optimism that "some conclusive, satisfactory arrangements" resolving the $222.58 million shortfall in base-related aid would be struck during the forthcoming exploratory bases talks. He said that the immediate serving of the notice of the bases treaty's termination in September 1991 to force American compliance of the base compensation package is "not necessary at this time in order to come up with the results."

Final arrangements with regard to the venue have yet to be ironed out, he added.

At the same news conference, Manglapus announced the appointments of the following career foreign service officers as consuls general in the United States: Alfredo L. Almendrala Jr. (San Francisco); Pedro O. Chan (Honolulu); Victory G. Garcia III (Los Angeles) and Francisco F. Santos (Agana, Guam).

Decline in Trade Deficit With PRC Reported

HK0305053390 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 3 May 90 p 2

["Indicator" column by Rica D. Delfinado: "RP (Republic of the Philippines) Trade Deficit With China Dips Slightly in '89"]

[Text] The Philippines managed to trim by a slight 2.2% its trade deficit with the People's Republic of China (PROC) last year, recently-released data from the Bureau of Export Trade Promotion (BETP) of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) show. According to the BETP, 1989's trade gap of $171 million with that Asian socialist nation was $4.5 million less than the $175.5 million deficit registered two years ago.

Nineteen eighty eight's deficit was also the biggest ever incurred by the country with China. This took place when domestic imports reached an all time high of $242.3 million while exports receipts sagged to $66.8 million, resulting in a heady $175.5 million balance of trade gap with China.

Since the first trade agreement was signed 15 years ago between the Philippines and the PROC, the country experienced only one period where a positive balance of trade was recorded between the two country's merchandise exchange. This was in 1977 when the Philippines posted a total of $108 million in export receipts with the PROC, exceeding the $78 million import expenditures by $29.7 million. Since then, the country continued to buy more goods from China while the PROC's procurement of local goods was significantly on the waning side.

RP's total trade with the Sino government grew from a measly $72.3 million upon the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1975 to $271 million last year, the BETP data also revealed.

The country's major import expenditure item was Chinese crude oil as well as other industrial inputs such as machinery and equipment; electrical products; coal; steel billets; industrial, pharmaceutical and agricultural chemicals; foodstuffs such as rice and corn.

Recently, the Philippines and China signed a bilateral trade agreement setting a target of $450 million for 1990. This reflects a substantial 47.6% jump over the $271 million total trade realized in 1989. According to the trade protocol, China will buy from the Philippines products such as, coconut oil, fresh bananas, copper concentrates, chrome ore, plywood, cashew nuts, coffee and coffee beans, raw sugar, paper and paper products, pharmaceutical preparations, and abaca leaf among others.

Meanwhile, latest Central Bank (CB) trade statistics show that as of January, 1990, the country had already incurred a $7 million trade deficit with China. Imports last January was recorded at $11 million while exports was reached $4 million. One significant development, however, was that the first month of 1990's, trade gap was 77.4% lower than the $31 million deficit recorded on the same period last year.

Aquino Issues Order on Energy-Saving Measures

HK0305095990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 3 May 90

[By Dick Sinchongco]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today issued National Emergency Memorandum Order No. 17 establishing energy-saving measures. Among the measures is the implementation of daylight savings time, or DST, effective 21 May. Under the measure, all time clocks will be moved forward by one hour in order to fully avail of daylight at a time when there is a power shortage. The use of neon and electric lights for advertisements will also be limited from 6 to 9 PM. Anybody violating the rule will be criminally charged based on guidelines stipulated under Republic Act No. 72 amended by Republic Act No. 872. The government will also launch an energy conservation campaign in line with the energy conservation.

Meanwhile, the government reassured that the power situation will improve by 7 May and that brownouts will be reduced with the resumption of operation of the Sucat-2 power plant.

Ramos, Military Officers Endorse Anticoup Bill

HK0305051990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 3 May 90 p 6

[By staff writer David C. Borje]

[Text] Defense and Armed Forces officials headed by Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos strongly endorsed a Senate bill making coup d'etat a new crime punishable with life imprisonment and an unbailable offense as well. But a University of the Philippines [UP] law professor described Senate Bill [SB] No. 1500, introduced by 19

senators headed by Senate President Jovito Salonga, as "discriminatory and violative of the equal protection clause" of the Bill of Rights of the Constitution. Prof. Esteban Bautista of the UP Law Center, Ramos, and AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] officers led by Maj. Gen. Alexander Aguirre, AFP vice chief of staff, expressed their views on the bill, the filing of which was prompted by the bloody December 1-9 coup attempt launched by rebellious AFP elements.

The resource speakers appeared in a public hearing on SB No. 1500 and three related bills conducted by the Senate committee on constitutional amendments, revision of codes and laws headed by Sen. Jose D. Lina Jr.

Salonga and his co-authors explained that a coup de-etat is directed at the central seat of government—the Palace itself—and should be punished more severely than an ordinary rebellion, which is punishable with only 12 years' imprisonment as maximum.

The bill also provides that "where the evidence of guilt is strong against any person accused of leading and/or participating in a coup d'etat, he shall not be released on bail after his capture and arrest and during the pendency of the criminal charge against him."

Ramos observed that the Senate bill provides lesser penalties for coup d'etat than the proposed DND [Department of National Defense]-AFP bill that seeks to impose the death penalty on coup plotters, if aggravated by certain circumstances, like murder.

The defense secretary told the Lina committee that the four related bills which impose stiffer penalties against crimes with the use of firearms or explosive devices "will profoundly affect the government's drive not only against the rebels and secessionists but also against criminality and lawlessness as well."

Bautista argued, however, that the proposed crime should have a similar or lesser penalty than the crime of rebellion. The UP professor explained that coup plotters are motivated by the belief that they are right in their desire to change the administration not the Constitution. "The dissenters of today may be the heroes of tomorrow," Bautista said. "The government is different from the administration, which is temporary..."

In the same hearing, Deputy Executive Secretary Mariano Sarmiento, who represented Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig Jr., said Malacanang endorsed SB 1500 and the three related bills.

Justice Undersecretary Eduardo Montenegro said SB No. 1500 should not be discussed pending resolution by the Supreme Court of the constitutionality of the crime of rebellion complexed with murder.

Anticorruption Panel Members Threatened

HK0305101790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 3 May 90

[By Dick Sinchiongco of Mobile Unit No. 6—italicized portions in English]

[Text] Threats to the lives of Presidential Commission on Good Government [PCGG] officials were disclosed today. PCGG acting chairman David Castro said the commissioners' lives are in danger because of their efforts to retrieve the Marcoses' wealth. He added that the burning of his house in Quezon City last Sunday [29 April] could be on purpose. He told Malacanang reporters that he was able to salvage important PCGG documents from the house. President Aquino gave clothes to Castro's wife because the fire completely razed their house.

[Begin recording] [Castro] *The circumstances points to... [changes thought] the thing happened too fast, in less than 30 minutes the whole house was gotten. There must be something else than a candle.*

[Reporter] *Do you think they were [words indistinct]?*

[Castro] *You know that two months after I joined the government, (Colonel Ronan), the operations director who reports to me, was killed and I received a letter with a bullet inside. So from then on I knew that some people are after me.* [end recording]

Castro further said that those threatening to kill them are the people who are greatly affected by the PCGG's decision.

Ramos Orders Probe Into Rally Violence

HK0305134590 Quezon City DWDD Defense Department Radio in Tagalog 0730 GMT 3 May 90

[News conference by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos at the Social Hall of the Department of National Defense, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City; live—in English]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] Before we proceed, would you like to give your opening statement, sir?

[Ramos] Yes. I have a very long opening statement, so that there'd be no more questions. [laughter]

First of all, this is in regard to the so-called bloody Labor Day. Yesterday, I issued a directive to the chief of staff or the acting chief of staff, info; the chief of constabulary; the commanding general of the Philippine Air Force who are the major services concerned. In effect, the directive is written on this news clipping which I think is representative of the description of the events. I will ask our staff to provide everybody a xerox of this. To the acting chief of staff, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines], info; chief, PC [Philippine Constabulary]; director general, INP [Integrated National Police]. Please have a special team to investigate this reported violent incident, particularly those allegedly involved in the injury of

media representatives. Submit report not later than 12 May, to include corrective actions taken. [passage omitted]

Now, I am also releasing for the media a directive to the chief of staff AFP in regard to instruction to be given to all AFP field commanders to review, update, and rehearse the area integrated public safety plan or IAPSP, particularly the integrated security plan for towns and cities, and this must be done in coordination with the local peace and order councils. This is really a reminder but some recent events call for this reminder, such as the NPA [New People's Army] raid on Compostela, Cebu last week as well as the escape of ex-Lieutenant Colonel Billy Bibit from the Manila City jail, which could have been prevented or at least confronted more vigorously had there been an updated and comprehensive and perhaps well rehearsed security plan for that town and for that institution.

There's also a report here from the chief of constabulary pertaining to the killing of a member of media, Ike Lingan, the editor-in-chief of the QUEZON TIMES in Lucena, who was allegedly mauled to death by Patrolman First Class Felipe Navarro of the INP last February 4, 1990. Anyway, according to this report of General Nazareno, PFC Navarro has been summarily dismissed from the service and at the same time he was charged in the regional trial court of Lucena City for homicide and frustrated homicide. However, since the court decided to have him avail of bail, he has been released provisionally after posting the required bail bond before the sala of executive Judge Jose C. de Guzman. [passage omitted]

We are submitting to all of you, ladies and gentlemen, a summary of the so-called mass grave of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]—NPA since January 1986 to March 1990, a total of some 573 sets of skeletal remains. This can be presumed to be 573 dead people consisting of military personnel, civilians, so-called deep-penetration agents of the government within the ranks of the CPP; and the so-called balikloob, or rebel returnees, who were liquidated after they returned to the fold of the government; plus their own NPA, who are, however, unidentified. This might be useful to some of you who are making some kind of stories on this. [passage omitted] Okay, ladies and gentlemen, I am now ready for your questions.

[Moderator] Jonathan Cristobal of Radio Veritas could now ask his question.

[Cristobal] Good afternoon, sir. Sir, I don't know if you are aware of this, but wire reports today said suspected communist NPA have threatened to assassinate Chinese businessmen in Dipolog City and Zamboanga del Norte if they do not close shop. The threat was made because the Chinese were said to monopolize the country's economy. Do you know about this threat and what have you done about it?

[Ramos] Is this a newspaper item?

[Cristobal] It's a wire report.

[Ramos] I know I have not seen this, but we thank you for bringing this information, and we'll have this checked out right away by the PC in Region 9, particularly Dipolog, to look into the matter, and if necessary provide protection since we don't want terroristic activities of this nature to take place against anybody. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Glenda Gloria, MANILA TIMES.

[Gloria] Sir, about the controversy involving General Biazon with regard to a letter supposedly signed by the GUARDIAN group. Have you discussed it with him or with Malacanang?

[Ramos] No. I have not discussed this. I have not even seen any letter, but I did see one report in one newspaper only. But I have asked the deputy chief of staff, Major General Aguirre, if he can pick up the materials on this so that we can take a better look.

[Gloria] So, you haven't seen the letter, sir?

[Ramos] We will have to look at what this is all about before we can make any comment on it. That is why I asked General Aguirre to pick up the materials on this matter. General Biazon is busy in the field and we are only in touch by telephone right now, although we do consult each other very often.

[Gloria] Sir, I understand that you submitted two memoranda regarding the extension of emergency for President Aquino.

[Ramos] I submitted one through the president.

[Gloria] May we know the contents of that memorandum?

[Ramos] No. That is still subjudice so to speak between the president, Cluster E, and the department heads because we will take this up in the next cabinet meeting. But I did propose that certain new memos or national emergency and memo orders be considered. We were given up to May 9 to submit our proposal. [passage omitted]

Ramos Opposes Creation of Public Order Department

HK0405034390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 4 May 90 p 8

[By staff writer Noemi Alcala]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos rejected yesterday Congress proposals to create a Department of Interior and a Department of Public Order and Safety (DPOS) saying these are "constitutionally defective" and "unnecessary."

Ramos however gave his full support to the proposed creation of the Philippine National Police (PNP), saying it will rectify the error of the past administration in

militarizing the police." In a press conference at Camp Aguinaldo, Ramos said that the Department of National Defense and the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] support the PNP bill certified by President Aquino.

The Senate proposed the creation of the Department of Interior, while the bicameral conference committee consolidating the PNP bills filed by the two chambers proposed the creation of the DPOS.

In a five-page letter to the President, Ramos said he opposes the creation of the DPOS because it "violates the constitutional mandate for the creation of a civilian national police under the supervision and control of a National Police Commission [Napolcom]." Ramos also said that "a National Police Commission is less vulnerable to partisan political pressures/influences than a department where decisions are made by a political appointee."

He also said that the setup of the proposed departments "will remove the functions of education and training of the members of the PNP from the PNP and the Napolcom." According to Ramos, such setup will adversely affect the type of training and education in relation to the actual needs of the PNP.

Ramos said that the DPOS will remove from the PNP the Fire Service and Jail Service. This, according to him, will disintegrate police, fire and jail services into three separate and parallel services organized from the national down to the municipal levels and will entail too much overhead expenses or personnel, facilities and financial support.

The Office of Civil Defense (OCD), which is proposed to be transferred to the DPOS, should remain with the DND as it has functioned effectively with his department, Ramos said.

Muslims, Rebels Form 'Provisional Government'

HK0405092590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 4 May 90 p 7

[By Cynthia de Leon]

[Text] Cagayan de Oro—Moro, Christian and tribal groups last Sunday signed with rebel soldiers a pact establishing a provisional government with its own military command in Mindanao. The agreement to set up the "Federal Bangsa Moro [Moro Homeland] Mindanao Republic" was signed by 11 rebel commanders and opposition leaders after a five-hour meeting somewhere in Mindanao, said Reuben Canoy, leader of the Mindanao Independence Movement.

Among those who signed the joint communique were renegade Col. Alexander Noble for the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan [RAM—Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance]-Mindanao; Canoy for the Soldiers of the People of Mindanao; Tony Falcon of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front [MILF]; Commander Solitario of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF]; Amir Hassan Sayadi of the MNLF Reformist Group; and Higaonon Datu Cabutaje for the Mindanao tribal groups.

Canoy said the MILF and MNLF representatives from Lanao, Cotabato and Davao included two delegates sent by MILF chief of staff Hadji Murad. Bukidnon and Agusan del Sur provinces were represented by delegates sent by the Al Fattah, the MNLF command based in Northern Mindanao.

Canoy said the pact is a "realization of OPLAN [Operational Plan] Southern Star," a military plan for secession drawn up by Colonel Noble, former operations chief of the Presidential Security Group. "We are not concerned with toppling or ousting the Aquino government but rather eventually setting up our own," Canoy said. "This is not a case of rebellion but rather assertion of our rights to self-determination."

He said opposition leader Ali Dimaporo had been meeting with them. But Canoy would not say whether a firm alliance between Dimaporo and the secessionists was forged.

Canoy said Noble has warned Maj. Gen. Manuel Dizon, chief of the Southern Command, of the "danger of total outbreak of hostilities in Mindanao if military mounts a fullscale assault against the renegade officer." The military has offered a P [pesos] 1-million reward for the capture of Noble, one of the suspected leaders of the bloody December putsch. "In view of this unification, forces identified with Noble could possibly react in support of one another. Parts of Mindanao could be enmeshed in a jungle war that will never end," Canoy said. Dizon has asked Noble to surrender and face charges before a military court, threatening full-scale military operations against the renegade colonel.

14 Officials of Insurgency Group Arrested

HK2604052590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 26 Apr 90

[Text] Constabulary and police operatives recently captured 14 NP [expansion unknown] and ANDF [expansion unknown] officials. Jim Bilasano reports:

[Begin recording] Based on a delayed report that reached Camp Crame, officials and members of an organization called (Kanipa) have been captured. The authorities conducted the raid while they were holding their annual congress. Some of them were identified as Ceso Galiardo, secretary general; Lagrimas Ponce, outgoing secretary, founder, and organizer; George Kasipit, founder and ranking member; Josefina Tropico, secretary general for visa level; Labrador Yubigalda, treasurer; and Marjoree Ofelia, chairwoman of barangay Tinikban, Paintan, Capiz.

The seized documents reveal that this organization's goals are similar to that of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front. They operate under the eastern front commission.

Report Optimistic About Economic Recovery

HK0405045390 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 4 May 90 pp 1, 2

[By reporter Rexie M. Reyes]

[Text] An "overall viability" in the country's economic recovery program is still possible despite the various problems that rocked the country last year, the Central Bank [CB] said in its 41st annual report released to media yesterday. The annual report, submitted to President Aquino, was dated March 28, before the adoption of the four-day work week, which has drastically altered growth projections by both government and private economists.

It said that despite the adverse effects of the abortive coup last December, the economy will still be able to grow because the "sound economic fundamentals that have been painstakingly set up since 1986 will not so easily be wiped away." "The economy is resilient and flexible," the CB report added. It was not clear, however, whether the energy crisis, said to be the worst in the country's postwar history, had any effects on the fundamentals.

The annual report noted several key areas where the Philippine economy made some headway last year. Among these areas were: the continued growth of the gross national product (GNP) by 5.6 percent, the 7.1 growth of the industry sector, increase in investments, the significant progress made in the management of the country's external debt, and advances in the implementation of structural reforms in such areas as trade liberalization, public finance and the restructuring of the financial system and public corporations.

The country's growth rate, though relatively lower than the projected 6.5 percent or the 6.6 percent growth achieved in 1988, was still "creditable," the report stated.

Last year's GNP growth was achieved through "a balancing of sound monetary and fiscal policies" that negated the financial imbalances which surfaced during the year, the CB said. Some of these financial imbalances were: the rapid growth of domestic liquidity in nominal terms from 22.6 percent in 1988 to 27.5 percent in 1989, and a substantial increase in the country's inflation rate to 10.6 percent form its previous single-digit levels.

These imbalances were mostly the results of the national government's big cash deficit of some P[pesos]19.0 billion, excess liquidity in the financial system, increases in the price of oil, the hike in the legislated minimum wage in July, and supply bottlenecks arising from weather-related causes, the report stated.

To take control of the situation, the CB as the government's monetary authority, implemented several monetary restraint measures by the middle part of the year. These measures included the raising of interest rates on the CB's rediscounting window from 10 percent to 12 percent and increasing the reserve requirements of banks.

Meanwhile, in the external sector, the country's overall balance of payments (BOP) showed a smaller surplus due to the larger current account deficit. The deficit was due to the increase in imports which outpaced the country's exports. The CB annual report noted, however, that the upsurge in imports was recorded mostly in intermediate goods and raw materials, the inputs used in the manufacture of exports.

Non-monetary capital or the flow of foreign loans and investments performed strongly. This was due to higher inflows of medium- and long-term loans in anticipation of the debt buyback operation conducted early this year and to the higher direct foreign equity investments approved by the CB. Investments rose to $3.542 billion as of end 1989 or by 8.4 percent from the 1988 level, the report stated.

The country's foreign debt burden also showed significant reductions as the level of debts dropped from $27.915 in end-1988 to $27.616 billion in end-1989. A number of important agreements were also signed last year such as the $820-million extended fund facility (EFF) and the $340-million compensatory and contingency fund facility (CCFF) from the International Monetary Fund; the Paris Club third round of debt rescheduling amounting to $2.2 billion; and the $5.3-billion pledges for the Philippine Assistance Program. The country also reached an understanding with its foreign commercial bank lenders on a new financial package. The agreements comprised the first phase of the country's debt management strategy.

Labor Force Expands 2.14 Percent in January

HK0205040790 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 2 May 90 p 2

[By Ric D. Delfinado]

[Text] The country's labor force expanded by 2.14% to 23.91 million in January this year from 23.5 million last year, statistics culled from the National Statistics Office (NSO) show.

However, despite the increase in the labor force, the labor force participation rate (LFPR) which is the ratio of the working age population to the total labor force, dropped, albeit only slightly to 64.5% in January this year from the 65% of the same month last year. The National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), quoting NSO in a report, said such a downtrend was most probably because the working age population was growing faster than the labor force during the month in review.

But the downtrend in LFPR was offset by the fact that employment levels in January this year were higher in nine regions outside Metro Manila compared to the same period last year.

The highest employment growth rate of 6.41% was registered in Region X, at 1.4 million in January 1990 compared to 1.3 million in January last year. This was followed by Region XII where total employment of 1.032 million last year grew by 5.52% to 1.089 million this year. Region IX came in third when it posted a substantial 3.79% hike in its total employment level.

These regions all overtook Metro Manila in terms of hikes in employment levels, an indication that during the period under review, countryside development, which spawns employment particularly in the wake of industrial dispersal, continued unhampered and was gaining some headway.

In Metro Manila, employment increased by only 2.43% during the reference period, a fact most probably due to the dislocations caused by the military mutiny of the previous month.

Nationwide, total employment at the start of the year stood at 21.9 million, 1.6% more than the January 1989 level of 21.6 million, the NSO said, adding that the 1990 figure represents an additional 354,000 employed people. Employment growth from January 1989 to January 1990, however, was much slower than from 1988 to 1989 when employment grew by 3.5% or by 724,000.

As the labor force grew faster, at 2.1%, than the number of employed persons, at 1.6%, the unemployment rate as of January this year increased to 8.6%, 4 percentage points higher than the 8.2% noted during the same period last year.

Metro Manila continued to register the highest unemployment rate among the regions, at 16.3% in January this year. But this was lower than the 17.2% recorded a year ago.

Among the 13 regions outside of Metro Manila, Region III registered the highest unemployment rate of 10.8% while Region II experienced the lowest rate of 4.4%.

Underemployment—the proportion of employed persons working for less than 40 hours a week to total employment—stood at 32.5% nationwide, which means, around 7.1 million of total employed were underemployed.

According to the NSO data, of the 21.905 million employed in January 1990, majority were in the agriculture sector, at 9.75 million or 44.5% of the total. However, this year's share of agrisector is slightly lower than its share in January 1989, at 44.8%. The drought which affected agricultural production could have contributed to the decline in the shares of agriculture to total employed.

Likewise, the percentage share of the industry sector to total employment went down to 15.7% or 3.44 million, from the previous year's 16.4% or 3.53 million. Industrial retrenchments due to the increase in minimum wage could have contributed to the slimming of the sector's share to total employed.

Thailand

U.S. Airline Policy, Shipping Firm Criticized

BK0405115190 Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 3 May 90 p 4

[Article by Rangsi: "Government Indifference to the Question of Infringement on National Sovereignty Over Aviation and Shipping Issues"]

[Excerpts] Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit is having a headache over quite a few issues that require serious study and sound decisions to protect the national interests and dignity of the Thai people. One of them is the air talks with the United States, which have dragged on for a year without consent from the United States for Thailand's demand for a fairer deal.

While Thai carriers are allowed only seven flights a week from Thailand to the United States, U.S. carriers can operate 30 flights per week here. The number of U.S. flights is much higher than the number of Thai flights. It reflects how our great friend is taking selfish advantage of a small country like Thailand. This is the reason why the Thai people are reluctant to consider the United States their really trustworthy friend.

The U.S.-Thai air agreement is due to expire soon, and negotiation is needed to renew the agreement. The Thai Government has indicated that it would like to amend the agreement, making it fairer to Thailand. It wants more flights to the United States for Thai carriers. The communications minister will thus have to work hard and must be tough in trying to get what the government wants in a bid to safeguard national interests and assert Thailand's status as an equal friend of the United States.

What the government, the Communications Ministry, or Thai Airways International should do now is to disclose to the Thai public details about all the disadvantages Thailand has suffered from this unfair practice from our selfish friend. This is in order to appeal for public support for this bout.

The Thai people are now fully conscious about their role in the protection of national interests and properties. The government elected by the people has no reason to hide facts and information about the country that the people should know. Otherwise, it will reflect a lack of sincerity from the government toward the people.

Besides the unfair Thai-U.S. air agreement, the government and Communications Ministry must tackle the issue of the Anera Cargo Line, which has caused trouble to trade and economic development of the country. The

issue is mentioned here because we would like to alert the government and all concerned authorities in import and export affairs to the danger threatening our economic growth and national security. [passage omitted]

The Anera shipping line has always ignored Thailand's sovereignty. It has been increasing freight rates and service charges of all kinds to its liking. It has been acting as the core in using other cargo liners as its tool to back its demands. Thailand met with protests and retaliation from a group of cargo liners when it introduced loading and unloading fees to be collected at its ports, despite the fact that this has been common practice in international ports for a hundred years now. The government finally yielded to the group, at the cost of national sovereignty, and accepted the conditions demanded by the group. It was a direct trampling on Thailand's sovereignty and the dignity of the Thai people.

Yet it looks as if the Thai Government paid no attention to the matter, as it has now agreed to allow a shipping firm with the backing of cargo liners to monopolize operations at two of the wharfs at Laem Chabang port. This is nothing but a plan to wreck the operations of the port authority, which is a state enterprise. Now the Anera liner is again putting itself above Thailand's sovereignty by starting to collect the CY [calendar year] surcharge since January and adjusting the CFS [container freight station] charge higher since February. Exporters and importers have asked the Board of Trade of Thailand to appeal to Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit in order to have the new regulation scrapped immediately, as there is a tendency that other cargo liners would follow suit under pressure from Anera. They also asked the government to adopt legal measures to prevent cargo shipping companies from collecting fees unilaterally, and to impose restrictions on their attempts to set up their own import-export checking stations in order to take advantage of cargo liners. The demand by importers and exporters reflects their awareness—they are now conscious of Thailand's interests and wish to free themselves from exploitation by foreigners. They are also aware of the danger threatening national trade and economics if we continue to allow it to remain under the control of foreign cargo lines.

We wonder whether the government can now see the coffin ahead of it?

Efforts Continue for Attaining Peace in Cambodia

Hun Sen Visits, Departs for Home

BK0305150090 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1300 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Prime Minister Hun Sen and his delegation, apparently in Phatthaya for the first time, visited entertainment spots in Phatthaya after having serious talks with the Thai deputy prime minister [Chawalit Yongchaiyut] two days ago. Yesterday, a Thai team led by General Phat Akkhanibut, secretary general to the deputy prime minister, escorted Prime Minister Hun Sen's delegation to watch Thai traditional cultural shows at Suan Nongnut. Hun Sen's delegation was impressed by the shows. There was also an elephant show, which delighted Hun Sen's delegation. Last night, Hun Sen's delegation also watched the Alcazar transvestite show.

At 0100 on the following day [3 May], Hun Sen, dressed in military fatigues, left for Cambodia. On that occasion he granted an interview to reporters. He said that his meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut two days ago was a key to the end of the civil war in Cambodia. Regarding a cease-fire proposal mentioned in Prince Sihanouk's nine-point proposal, Hun Sen thought that fair elections should come before a cease-fire. Prince Sihanouk, in his proposal, also called for a total troop withdrawal or equal troop reductions by all sides—to only 10,000 on each side in their respective controlled areas. Hun Sen said that if he agrees with Prince Sihanouk on this point and the important point of a cease-fire, the talks will make progress.

[Begin Hun Sen recording in Cambodian fading into English translation] The cease-fire on the spot is a very hard issue that exists between myself and Prince Sihanouk for the last years. (?Formerly), Prince Sihanouk only accepts the cease-fire on condition that we create.... [end recording]

At about 0100 today, Prime Minister Hun Sen, his wife Hun Samhieng, Defense Minister Gen. Tie Banh and his wife, and their delegation bid farewell to the deputy prime minister's secretary general and left by boat from Trat Province to Koh Kong, Cambodia. They then boarded a helicopter at Kompong Som Port for Phnom Penh.

Hun Sen Urged To Accept Plan

BK0305113990 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 2 May 90

["Station Article": "Hun Sen's Rejection of Prince Sihanouk's New Proposal"]

[Excerpts] In early April, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the internationally recognized Cambodian national government, presented to Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh, a nine-point peace plan for the settlement of the Cambodian problem. The proposal contains several points which are different from previous proposals. It reflects more flexibility from the Cambodian national government, a groundwork for compromise worth studying.

All hopes, however, appear to be dim as there has been an expectation that Hun Sen would reject the proposal, although it is reasonable, and incorporates compromise. Hun Sen's rejection would only show that he is not ready to see peace return to Cambodia and that his faction is responsible for the deadlock in the settlement of the Cambodian problem. In this connection, we must consider the proposals put forth by Prince Sihanouk in his

new peace plan, ask which elements are new, and what Hun Sen's reasons for rejecting them could be. [passage omitted]

From the nine parts of the proposal, we clearly see that Prince Sihanouk has adjusted his stand on at least three points. He has now accepted a cease-fire in place. This issue was originally linked with a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem which made it complicated for implementation as there are numerous problems to tackle. Prince Sihanouk has accepted the setting up of an international control mechnism under the framework of the United Nations, with the approval of the UN secretary general and the leaders of the four Cambodian factions. Prince Sihanouk did not call for a dismantling of the Heng Samrin regime as his government had before.

The Hun Sen faction should be more flexible on the new aspects of the nine-point peace plan and accept the proposal for the sake of the mutual interests of the Cambodian people. If Hun Sen rejects this proposal he will be rejecting a golden opportunity for compromise. This new proposal can be called a step out of the darkness. There is nothing hidden here. If he rejects it, that means Hun Sen is not ready to put his cards on the table and still wants to solve the problem by military strength instead of a political settlement.

In fact, Prince Sihanouk's new peace plan should be acceptable to Hun Sen because several of the nine points are the same as the proposals previously made by Hun Sen's faction itself. Besides, the new peace plan put forth by Prince Sihanouk are in answer to the realities of the long-standing problem in Cambodia. This is why all warring factions in Cambodia should think about it seriously. They should realize that only through a political settlement will the Cambodian people achieve a durable peace, with justice for all. Although they continue to fight, no party can win an absolute victory and control the country. And it is the Cambodian people who will continue to suffer. That includes those living inside Cambodia as well as the refugees at camps in Thailand or along the Thai-Cambodian border.

We therefore hope that Prince Sihanouk's peace proposal will serve as a basis for future meetings and negotiations. It is also hoped that there will be a comprehensive settlement to the Cambodian problem resulting in Cambodia achieving full independence, sovereignty and nonaligned status, and the Cambodian people achieving their right to self-determination without interference from foreign countries, in order to coexist peacefully with its neighbors without fear or mistrust.

View of SRV Official in Beijing

BK0405030390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 May 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Sino-Vietnam Normalization"]

[Text] The visit of Vietnam's Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem to Beijing this week is significant. It was the first by a senior Vietnamese official in 17 months. The trip was delayed because China kept saying that Vietnam lacked "sincerity" about settling the Cambodian problem, and accused it of still maintaining troops in Cambodia.

However, it seems that normalization between the two countries is proceeding. It has been clear that there is a desire to ease strains on both sides. With that kind of readiness, the betterment of their friendships should not be held hostage by the Cambodian problem. In this case, it is quite similar to the Sino-Soviet detente. At first, Beijing cited the Cambodian problem as one of the main obstacles but later decided—despite the conflict remaining unresolved—to go ahead with normalization with the Soviets.

Without a doubt, the dramatic political and economic changes of the past year, particularly those in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, have influenced the Sino-Vietnamese relationship.

In Asia, the three primary communist nations—China, North Korea and Vietnam—have defied political openness. China and North Korea have strengthened their previously cool relations since the "new thinking" hit Moscow, and it is a logical step for China to move towards closer ties with Vietnam.

Specifically, China and Vietnam are wary about the ripple effect that the liberalization and increased political pluralism in the Soviet Union might have on them. Moreover, the gradual reduction of the Soviet influence and assistance to Vietnam has given an added impetus to better ties with China. Moscow has pulled out some of its bombers from Cam Ranh Bay, and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach was quoted by a US law-maker that the Soviets might leave the base entirely in two years.

Having Dinh in Beijing at the same time that Prince Norodom Sihanouk was staying there was also a good indication that China wants to show some flexibility toward Vietnam. There have been reports that the two might hold private talks, with China as the go-between. Throughout the past year, border trade along the Sino-Vietnamese border has been booming, and personal contacts have increased. Both sides have expressed the wish to see an improvement in their relations this year—the 40th anniversary of the establishment of their diplomatic relations.

There is a possibility that after Dinh's visit, China will be willing to hold talks with Vietnam on Cambodia, along with Thailand. If three-way talks could be realized, it would certainly have a positive impact on prospects for peace in Cambodia.

Deputy Premier To Go to Tokyo

BK0405013090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 May 90 pp 1, 3

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut is to take part in the meeting between Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen and Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Tokyo early next month.

The announcement came as Mr Hun Sen ended a visit to Phattaya, where he held wide-ranging talks with Gen [General] Chawalit, and returned home after calling for a ceasefire to mark the beginning of the end of the 11-year conflict. Speaking after Japanese Minister of State for the Defence Agency Yozo Ishikawa had paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan at Parliament, Gevernment deputy spokesman Prathuang Wichanphicha confirmed Gen Chawalit's Tokyo initiative.

He quoted Gen Chatchai as describing the Hun Sen-Chawalit meeting here as a new diplomatic effort to establish contacts between conflicting factions. The Japanese minister praised Thailand's effort and wished all parties concerned success in the meeting to be hosted by Japan.

Gen Chatchai said he would leave it to Gen Chawalit to try to make the talks successful.

Before his departure early yesterday morning Mr Hun Sen stressed that "the key issue is that we have to find a way to prevent the civil war from going on indefinitely. "If we cannot find a comprehensive settlement, we should at least start with a ceasefire," he added.

Mr Hun Sen stopped short of agreeing to meet Prince Sihanouk in Tokyo during the talks with Gen Chawalit in Phattaya, saying this would depend on the outcome of preparatory discussions in Bangkok between the two sides. "The Bangkok preparatory meeting will be very important and I hope it will determine the success of the Tokyo talks," he said.

Clad in military fatigues, Mr Hun Sen said he and the prince seemed to have reached a "common view"—the need for a ceasefire—which had been the "most difficult" issue over the past two years. He said Prince Sihanouk previously linked a ceasefire to the setting up of a provisional quadripartite government and army comprising 10,000 troops from each faction. "But now he is proposing a ceasefire, keeping intact factional armies and positions," Mr Hun Sen said.

The Phnom Penh leader, however, rejected; the prince's call for a permanent contingent five-member United Nations Security Council in Cambodia prior to the start of a ceasefire. "Do we need a peace-keeping force in Cambodia? For what purpose would such a force be present in Cambodia—for fighting?" he asked.

Mr Hun Sen said he was in favour of setting up an international control mechanism "with civilian and military components".

Prince Sihanouk, in his nine-point peace proposal delivered on April 9, called for a "strong armed contingent" under the command of the military representative of UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The Prince proposed that an international control mechanism be set up by the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC), its composition determined by PICC in agreement with the UN secretary-general and the four factional leaders.

Mr Hun Sen insisted on a limited UN role during the interim period prior to general elections. He adhered to his position that the UN interim authority be authorized to implement all international accords on Cambodia and to organise and supervise free and fair elections.

Prince Sihanouk said the existing factional bodies should yield "all their administrative powers" to a UN administering authority pending general elections.

Mr Hun Sen said he would appoint Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Hor Nam Hong as Phnom Penh's chief delegate to the Bangkok preparatory meeting if Prince Sihanouk's son Prince Norodom Ranariddh heads the resistance side. Mr Hun Sen described Mr Hor Nam Hong, former ambassador to Moscow, as his "right-hand man in political affairs".

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan has said the preparatory meeting would be held here in mid-May.

—In his talks with Japanese Minister of State for the Defence Agency Yozo Ishikawa, Gen Chatchai also proposed a high-level military meeting between the two countries to discuss the regional situation, particularly in light of a possible withdrawal of US bases from the Philippines. The Prime Minister also asked Japan to buy more goods from Thailand. He said Thai goods are now of high standards because they are produced with machines from Japan.

Gen Chatchai commented that at present the South China Sea, Mediterranean and Caribbean seas are of strategic importance and that, if possible, he wanted Thailand and Japan to hold a joint exercise in the South China Sea.

Mr Ishikawa said it would be difficult for Japan to join a naval exercise because of limitations under the Japanese Constitution. However, he said it is possible for Thailand and Japan to conduct joint training. He said he will pass Gen Chatchai's proposal to the Japanese Prime Minister.

Meanwhile, Gen Chawalit, who also met Mr Ishikawa earlier at the Defence Ministry, said Japan thanked Thailand for having pushed for Japan to take part in solving the Cambodian problem by hosting the meeting between Prince Sihanouk and Mr Hun Sen in Tokyo. He said his meeting with Mr Hun Sen was designed to get an assurance in principle that the Phnom Penh Prime Minister will go to Japan to meet with Prince Sihanouk who had already said he would go.

Since the two sides have agreed to meet in Japan, there must be a preparatory meeting between their representatives in Bangkok. The representatives will be of a high-level with sufficient authority to make decisions on behalf of their leaders, Gen Chawalit said.

Ishikawa Meets With Chawalit

OW0305075790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0710 GMT 3 May 90

[By Yutaka Negishi]

[Text] Bangkok, May 3 KYODO—Thai Deputy Prime Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut will visit Japan to help Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk try to end the 11-year-old war in their country when they meet in Tokyo in June for a fresh round of peace talks, Japanese officials said Thursday. "I think I have to go to Tokyo (in June)," Chawalit was quoted as telling Japanese State Minister for Defense Yozo Ishikawa. "We put great hope (on the proposed Tokyo peace talks)."

Ishikawa arrived here Wednesday on the second leg of a five-day tour of Australia, Thailand, and Malaysia.

Chawalit held talks with Hun Sen near Bangkok Tuesday to discuss the Tokyo meeting, which was suggested by Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan during his visit to Tokyo last month.

Thai sources said Hun Sen and Sihanouk may reach agreement on a ceasefire in their Tokyo meeting.

In response to Chatchai's suggestion, Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu later invited the two Cambodian leaders to Tokyo for peace negotiations, the latest attempt in two years of bilateral and regional efforts to restore peace in the Indochinese country. Both Hun Sen and Sihanouk have agreed to go to Tokyo for a summit meeting, which was tentatively set for early June.

The two, together with leaders of two other guerrilla groups, met in Jakarta in February in the previous round of peace negotiations but no progress was made.

In the meeting with Ishikawa, Chawalit also said Chatchai wants him to go to Tokyo on the occasion of the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting. "There will be something I can do behind the scenes (in Tokyo)," Chawalit was quoted as telling Ishikawa, according to Japanese officials. Chatchai later met Ishikawa and said, "Whether the Tokyo meeting will succeed or not depends on Chawalit," the officials added.

The prime minister said Chawalit, former army chief, has good relations with both Hun Sen and Sihanouk, who is head of a three-party coalition of resistance forces who have been fighting to topple the Phnom Penh Government which was set up in 1979 with Vietnam's backing.

Ishikawa flew into Bangkok from Canberra Wednesday and will leave for Kuala Lumpur Friday. It is the first visit to the three countries by Japan's Defense Agency chief.

Chatchai Meets Japanese Defense Agency Chief

OW0305151490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1419 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 3 KYODO—Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chuhawan, in a meeting with Japan's Defense Agency chief Yozo Ishikawa, said Thursday he would like to see a joint Thai-Japanese naval exercise in the future. "Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) has advanced technology and I wonder if it is possible for Thailand's Navy and the MSDF to conduct a joint exercise," he was quoted as telling Ishikawa in the meeting.

Chatchai made the suggestion in line with bilateral relations in the field of national defense, which he said are proceeding very smoothly, according to Japanese officials. The prime minister specifically referred to personnel exchanges between officials of Japan's Defense Agency and armed forces of his country.

In response to the suggestion, Ishikawa, state minister for defense, said he will have agency experts study the matter.

A Thai spokesman, meanwhile, quoted Ishikawa as telling Chatchai, "There are limitations on the Japanese side (to accepting the Thai suggestion)." Ishikawa added, however, Japan and Thailand can conduct "joint (military) training," according to the Thai spokesman.

Japan's postwar Constitution does not allow Self-Defense Forces to have security arrangements for the defense of other countries.

Ishikawa arrived in Bangkok Wednesday after a trip to Australia and will leave for Malaysia Friday to conclude his five-day tour of the three countries, the first by Japan's top defense policy maker.

Police Seize Weapons Along Cambodian Border

BK0305031590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 May 90 p 4

[Text] Border Patrol Police [BPP] have seized a large assortment of war weapons along Thai-Cambodian border in Surin province in recent weeks, BPP police said on Tuesday [1 May]. They said the weapons were discovered during patrols at the border, and that they believed the firearms were hidden by arms smugglers before being distributed to minority groups along the border.

The seized weapons included 122 RPG rockets, 180 rocket-propelled grenades, 500 rounds of anti-aircraft ammunitions, 10 bars of T.N.T., 19 recoiless rifles shells, 83 landmines, an M-16 assault rifle, a rocket-propelled grenade launcher and a large amount of ammmunition, they said.

The weapons were displayed at Surin's BPP headquarters in Muang district and inspected by BPP Commissioner Pol Lt Gen [Police Lieutenant General] Phairot Putsayanawin on Tuesday.

PRC Accused of 'Pressure' on Dalai Lama Visit

BK0305024590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 May 90 p 1

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has told China it was offended by the pressure placed on Thailand to keep the Dalai Lama from visiting this country, a spokesman for the House committee on foreign affairs said yesterday. Sutham Saengprathum said the ministry's message was conveyed through a letter to the Chinese Embassy here.

He said the committee had been told by the ministry that the letter was sent in reaction to a meeting between Chinese Ambassador Li Shichun and Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan last Friday [27 April] during which the envoy registered Beijing's objection to the Dalai Lama's visit. "The ministry told the House committee that it was offended by the Chinese action," Sutham said. He gave no other details.

Officials of the Foreign Ministry were not available for comment yesterday. But a senior official of the ministry, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there was a feeling in the ministry that the Chinese envoy "went over our heads" by going straight to the premier.

"China was apparently aware of the ministry's stand on the issue and decided to raise the matter directly with the prime minister," the official said. He said the Foreign Ministry had no objection to a visit here by the Dalai Lama if it was purely for religious purposes.

Sutham also said the House committee supports the Dalai Lama's visit here as a guest of the non-governmental Sathirakoset-Nakhaprathip Foundation, which invited the Tibetan monk to come to Thailand for religious celebrations next month. "If the trip is for religious purposes, the government should permit it," Sutham said.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila urged Premier Chatchai on Tuesday to make a decision on the trip. But Chatchai said the Foreign Ministry should decide on the matter.

Sutham said it was entirely an internal affair of Thailand's whether the Dalai Lama would be allowed here.

Anniversary of Relations With DPRK Marked

BK0305033190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 May 90 p 6

[Text] North Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Cha Pong-chu met Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila yesterday to mark the 15th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Mr Cha said North Korea wanted to expand trade with Thailand and ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi said the Thai private sector would be encouraged to trade with North Korea.

The North Korean minister praised Thailand's efforts to bring peace to the Southeast Asia region. ACM Sitthi agreed to visit Pyongyang again some time at the invitation of his North Korean counterpart Kim Yong-nam.

ACM Sitthi visited North Korea in 1987 and Mr Kim made a return visit to Thailand in 1988.

Government To Inform IMF of Open-Door Intent

BK0405022190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 May 90 p 15

[By Watchara Charunsantikun]

[Text] The Thai Government will submit a letter of intent early this month to the International Monetary Fund [IMF] informing it that it is ready to liberalize exchange controls as a means to pursuing a full-fledged, open-door policy in international trade. The move will have far-reaching implications for Thailand as it becomes increasingly integrated into the worldwide economy. It also indicates that the country's financial stability is strong enough to graduate to the coveted status of an industrialized country.

Chawalit Thanachanan, governor of the Bank of Thailand, stressed that the exchange control liberalization policy, which has received unequivocal backing from Finance Minister Pramuan Saphawasu, is a signal to other countries that Thailand is parting from its long-standing conservative approach in exchange controls and is ready to facilitate trade and financial flows.

After the IMF has received the central bank's letter of intent, it will send a specialist team to monitor the Thai economy before making the announcement that Thailand has joined the club of 50 to 60 countries adopting exchange control liberalization.

This process might take some time. However, the IMF officials have been calling for the Thai Government to liberalize its exchange controls, viewing that the robust Thai economy entails a quick move in that direction.

In the past, the Thai Government has held a tight grip on exchange control, preferring a gradual change toward liberalization. But it is now placing no restriction on current financial transactions, or limiting the trade flows, inbound or outbound. Chawalit said only 0.17 percent of the total export value and 1 percent of the total import value are currently going through the government-regulated process.

The benefits of liberalizing the country's exchange controls are many-fold, and one is the convenience in arriving at, in a fairer fashion, settlements or accords in international trade with the trading partners. The existence of the exchange controls, for instance, has been a

stumbling block for Thailand to hold trade talks with European countries, particularly Britain, Norway and Sweden.

Today, Chawalit will leave for Washington DC to attend the IMF meeting, at which a quota increase in the loan programme for member countries facing difficulties in handling their balance of payments will be a major item on the agenda, apart from reviewing the worldwide economic conditions.

Of particular interest is the debate about the growing role of Japan, now a major donor country to the IMF, which is trying to advance its status to second place in the prestigious institution. This is creating some uneasiness among second-ranked Britain, third-ranked Germany and fourth-ranked France.

Thailand's liberalization of exchange controls is also aimed at meeting the challenge of taking the country into the 20th Century. "We are not looking at Thailand just five years ahead, but 10 years ahead toward the year 2000 and try to get an overall picture as to how the Thai economy will be," Chawalit said. "For now we expect that the economy will grow at an average 7-8 percent a year, a growth rate that is in line with the country's financial stability.

So far concern has been expressed over the shape of the country's trade deficit and current account deficit. But Chawalit assured that the increasing figures in trade deficit and current account deficit are periodic and not beyond the capacity of the country to absorb, given the fact that they are equivalent to less than 4 percent of the country's total export earnings.

More significantly, Chawalit said, the country's financial situation has strengthened as evidenced by a record that the total debts incurred by the government and private sectors are equivalent to 10.2 percent of the export earnings, two times less than the level of some four to five years ago. In 1985-1986 the government and private sectors' debts were equivalent to 22 percent of the export earnings.

The strong financial shape that Thailand is in is also reflected in its burgeoning international reserves, which stood at US$12.1 billion in the first quarter of this year, compared with US$2.7 billion in 1984-1985. "This is one of the reasons that we are ready to relax exchange controls," the governor said. He confirmed that deregulation is the right course for the country to embark upon, although it is not an easy task to undertake. With deregulation under way, he explained, competition among financial institutions will intensify, but it will also create a healthier environment for the country's economy.

Censure Debate Said Aimed at Ousting Chatchai

BK0305035990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 May 90 p 2

[Excerpt] The Opposition's ultimate objective of the no-confidence debate against the entire Cabinet is for Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan to resign as head of the government, not for a Cabinet shake-up, Solidarity deputy leader Piyanat Watcharaphon said yesterday.

Piyanat said the Opposition did not plan to file the censure motion to pave the way for Gen [General] Chatchai to use it as a tool to reshuffle his Cabinet but to show to the public the government's inefficiency during its near two-year tenure in office. There has been rumours that Chatchai would use the no-confidence offensive as an excuse for a major Cabinet shake-up. [passage omitted]

Military Stresses Standardization of Weapons

BK0405022990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 May 90 p 4

[Text] Supreme Commander Gen [General] Sunthon Kongsomphong said yesterday he would instruct all three branches of the military to buy weapons of the same standard so that they could exchange spare parts for repair and maintenance. He said he would stress the standardization policy during a meeting with commanders in chief of the army, navy and air force late this month.

Procedures for procurement of defence items would remain unchanged, he said, adding that the three armed forces are required to coordinate their plans to purchase new weapons with the Supreme Command.

Department Issuing Dolphin-Safe Certificates

BK0305035190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 May 90 p 6

[Text] The Fisheries Department is seeking cooperation from exporters of canned tuna to issue the Dolphin Safe Certificate of Origin for the canned tuna industry in Thailand. Department chief Dr Plotprasop Suratsawadi said yesterday that a meeting between senior fisheries officials and canned tuna exporters this week is expected to discuss a move by the United States to ban importation of tuna caught from the same habitat as dolphins, where the population of the sea mammal is declining.

He said the ban, if imposed, would result from the public outcry in the US about many dolphins being caught by tuna fishermen using driftnet techniques. The department agrees with the US on the ban and, as the US is a major importer of canned tuna from Thailand, exporters have to observe the regulation.

The department has started issuing the certificate for processers in Thailand such as Unicord Co and Thai Union Co. Without the certificate, the US will not allow tuna imports.

Thailand imports about 200,000 tons of tuna, worth about 10,000 million baht, for canning and 90 per cent of the catch comes from the western Pacific region which has fewer dolphins.

Tapioca Traders Call for Quota Adjustment

BK0405020190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 May 90 p 15

[Text] Tapioca traders have urged the Commerce Ministry to manage the tapioca quota distribution efficiently and adjust the bonus quota from the current rate of 0.7 times, otherwise exporters could face heavy losses. Thai Tapioca Trading Association chairman Liang Sisathaphon said yesterday exporters had bought a large volume of tapioca at high prices, but the European Community's market price had slumped.

He said trade in tapioca flour was good at present but not so that in tapioca chips and pellets, as Indonesia and China had been dumping their stocks. As a result, the EC price has dropped from DM300 (4,650 baht) per ton to DM260-270 (4,030-4,185 baht), while the price outside the EC market is only about $50 (1,314 baht).

Mr Liang said the bonus quota system was not attractive to exporters as it was set at only 0.7 times the export volume and should be adjusted by the Commerce Ministry.

He said tapioca production was near the end of the season with about 10 percent still to be harvested and the rest already processed into flour, chips and pellets. In the 1989-90 season, the planting area is expected to be about 9.4 million rai with fresh tapioca out projected at around 22.3 million tons, compared to 9.7 million rai and 24.6 million tons, respectively last season.

He said Thailand exported 5.7 million tons of tapioca flour, chips and pellets to the EC and 3.9 million tons to non-EC markets last year, worth a total of about 31,620 million baht.

The association said it had checked the crop area in March and noted that the Green Isan Project had partly affected forest encroachment. The encroachers had turned to planting sugarcane and corn instead of tapioca due to the price slump.

Vietnam

NHAN DAN on National Security Maintenance

BK0305164490 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 16 Apr 90 pp 1, 4

[16 April NHAN DAN editorial: "Take the Movement To Safeguard the Fatherland's Security Another Step Forward"]

[Text] In the past, together with important changes for the better in the economy, in the field of safeguarding political security and public order and safety, especially since the implementation of a resolution of the National Assembly and Directive No. 135 of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, many localities and establishments have made remarkable efforts and initial improvements of profound significance in various domains. These improvements have had a positive effect on socioeconomic management activities, creating conditions for developing democracy among the people, improving the efficiency of the administration, and consolidating the people's confidence in our party and state's leadership.

The comprehensive renovation process carried out in accordance with the spirit of the resolution of the Sixth Party Congress—as was recently assessed by the party Central Committee's eighth plenum—has produced initial, important results. This proves that our renovative line and steps are correct. Yet, we still face numerous difficulties and obstacles. The country has not yet been freed from the socioeconomic crisis. In the renovation process, new contradictions continue to emerge. This requires us to be sensitive and highly alert to discover and promptly overcome them. Imperialist and reactionary forces are trying to exploit our difficulties in order to increase their interference and sabotage to achieve peaceful evolution, inciting and enlisting those who harbor illusions against socialism. In such a situation, the task of maintaining political security and public order and safety has dictated more new pressing requirements.

We must, on the one hand, continue to develop the people's right to mastery and exercise democracy widely along with efforts to educate everyone to live and work according to the law. On the other hand, we must carry out drastic supression against attempts to undermine the renovation undertaking and disturb disorder and security. This is an objective demand of the task of building and defending the socialist fatherland. It is also the desire of a broad section of our cadres and people to firmly maintain political, economic, and social stability, especially political stability. Facts obtained over the past few years show that our people can realize their right to mastery as citizens only when public order and discipline are established, when the law is respected by all, and when the reactionaries, villains, thieves, and robbers are duly punished.

On the basis of the initial results obtained in several drives to implement Directive No. 135, over the past few days localities throughout the country have continued to broaden the Mass Movement to Safeguard the Fatherland's Security, mobilize a combined strength to launch a crackdown on those attempting to violate our political security, on those corrupt individuals, bribe takers, smugglers, racketeers, and swindlers who misappropriate the property of the state, the collective, and citizens, and on those who store and circulate decadent and reactionary documents, who spread distorting and incendiary propaganda, or who rally forces against our party and state lines and policies, and who condone other social vices such as gambling, drug addiction, prostitution, etc.... The punishment of those criminals mentioned above is winning the sympathy and support of a broad section of our cadres and people.

The factor deciding the effect of this suppression drive lies in efforts to practically renovate the essence and

methods of mass motivation in order to be able to mobilize the enormous strength of the people of various strata under the guidance of the party committees and the administration at various levels. As a backbone force of the Mass Movement To Safeguard the Fatherland's Security, all branches within the Internal Security Bloc, especially the People's Public Security Force, must heighten their sense of responsibility; resolutely overcome rightist and evasive tendencies; and step up the struggle against negativism within the ranks of each relevant branch as well as in society. They must further strengthen their forces organizationally and continue to purify their ranks; they must constantly improve their professional skills and their knowledge of the law. All these are necessary tasks these forces must implement so they can become strong enough to promptly meet new requirements dictated by the front for maintaining public order and security. Progressive models that emerged in recent drives for implementation of Directive No. 135 on carrying out mass motivation, launching crackdowns on criminals, persuading criminals to surrender, establishing regulations on public order and security in each population center, building the people's defense force, and others must be discussed and promptly encouraged for widespread multiplication.

Broadening and eternally maintaining the Mass Movement To Safeguard the Fatherland's Security is a permanent duty of all party committee echelons, the administration, and mass organizations in every locality and each grass-roots organization.

Nguyen Co Thach To Visit Four EEC Countries

BK0305135490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1343 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Hanoi, May 3 (AFP)—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach will begin a 10-day tour through four European Economic Community (EEC) countries next week, a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said here Thursday [3 May]. He will meet in turn with his counterparts in West Germany, Italy, Belgium and Austria during the tour, from May 9 to May 19, spokeswoman Ho The Lan said. She added that he will also meet with economic officials and business leaders.

Mr. Thach's first stop will be from May 9 to May 11 in Bonn, where he will sign "a certain number of protocols," she said without elaborating. He will visit Belgium from May 15 to May 16, followed by a three-day visit to Italy during which he will participate in the inaugural session of an intergovernmental cooperation commission formed in December during a visit to Hanoi by Italian Foreign Affairs Minister Gianni de Michelis. Mr. Thach would also sign several protocols while in Italy, the ministry spokeswoman said. Ms. Lan did not give the dates for Mr. Thach's trip to Austria, nor was there an explanation of how he would spend the three days between visits to West Germany and Belgium.

Italy was the first EEC country to sign an economic cooperation pact with Vietnam after Hanoi announced the complete withdrawal of its forces from Cambodia in September. The accord was signed during Mr. de Michelis' visit. Most Western governments cut economic aid to Vietnam after it invaded Cambodia in December 1978 to topple the bloody Khmer Rouge regime, and many have made resolution of the ongoing Cambodian conflict a condition for resuming their assistance.

Radio on U.S. 'Gross' Interference in Lithuania

BK0305125690 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 3 May 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Public opinion has followed developments in the Republic of Lithuania with great concern. Here is our radio commentary on this issue:

The situation in Lithuania has been in the headlines since the Republic's Supreme Soviet made a sudden and unilateral decision on restoring independence in Lithuania. This decision adopted one and a half months ago has posed a danger to the interests of the people in the Republic as well as of the Soviet Union. During that period, President Gorbachev and the Soviet Government have been persistently persuading the Lithuanian leadership that their breakaway policy is detrimental and only leads to a deadlock. However, the Lithuanian leaders continue reaffirming their determination to reestablish independence for the Lithuanian state. As a result, the Soviet Union has been taking tough measures against the republic, stopping the supply of oil, and reducing the supply of gas.

The Lithuanian problem is an internal affair of the Soviet Union. The policy on Lithuania pursued by the Soviet leadership is abided [as heard] by the Soviet Constitution and is to ensure the respect for the Constitution. Nevertheless, the United States and some Western countries attempted to interfere into the Lithuanian affairs with an aim to destabilize and put pressure on the Soviet Union. In the United States, the influential circles openly spoke about punitive measures against the Soviet Union—from trade limitations to a halt in the disarmament talks, even a delay in the American-Soviet summit. Many U.S. strategists did not bother to hide their aim to stir ethnic contradictions and encourage the East European trend of secession right in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Government and people consider this a gross and unforgivable interference. Vietnam completely supports this stand of the Soviet Union. All the moves taken by the Lithuanian leadership brought the country to the brink of collapse. By splitting from the Union, they plan to destroy the relationship among the republics of the Union. It is this relationship that gave priority to the development in Lithuania.

However, in Lithuania there are people who called on the leadership to renounce their demand. They also urged the new leaders to resign so that new policies

would be made and negotiations would be carried out. The Soviet Government pointed out that negotiations between Moscow and Vilnius would take place immediately after Lithuania renounced or postponed its declaration of secession. Thus, the Lithuanian Republic has no other alternative than to comply with the Union's Constitution for good. [sentence as heard]

Lao Leaders Send Message on 'Liberation' Day

BK0305154190 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—Vietnamese party and state leaders have received a joint message of greetings form their Lao counterparts on the 15th anniversary of the liberation of south Vietnam (April 30).

The message, signed by party General Secretary and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Kaysone Phomvihan, Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit, and President of the People's Supreme Assembly Nouhak Phoumsavan, described the April 30 victory as an 'important factor to the victory of the Lao people and a contribution to the world struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.'

The message expressed profound gratitude to the Communist Party, government and people of Vietnam for their assistance of noble proletarian internationalism rendered to the Lao revolution.

Australia

Concern Expressed Over Blockade of Bougainville

BK0405072090 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Australia has expressed concern over the declaration by the Papua New Guinea Department of Transport of a 50-nautical-mile exclusion zone around the island of Bougainville. The declared zone also extends above the sea to an altitude of about 7,000 meters. Radio Australia's diplomatic correspondent says the notification was issued by the Papua New Guinea Transport Department on the advice of the defense forces and without the full consideration of the government.

Australia's foreign affairs minister, Senator Gareth Evans, says a blockade is an internal matter for Papua New Guinea. However, there would be a problem if it extended into international waters and involved risks to shipping or aircraft. Senator Evans says Australia would be concerned about access to the area by Australian vessels, and he has questioned the status of an exclusion zone under international law. Senator Evans is expecting clarification of the issue from the Papua New Guinea Government later today.

PRC Metallurgical Industry Minister Arrives

BK0305080790 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] The Chinese minister for metallurgical industry, Mr. Qi Yuanjing, has arrived in western Australia to inspect one of China's largest overseas investments. Tomorrow he will formally open the (?China) iron ore mine which is 40 percent owned by the Chinese Government.

Mr. Qi is the first Chinese minister to visit Australia since the military crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing last June. The Australian Government imposed a ban on ministerial exchanges with China in protest against the crackdown, but the ban was lifted in January. Radio Australia's diplomatic correspondent Stewart Heather says Mr. Qi arrived quietly in Australia to avoid demonstrations by exiled Chinese students and Australian supporters of China's pro-democracy movement.

Fiji

Government Forces Pacific News Service To Leave

BK0305072890 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] It will be several months yet before a decision is made on a new base for the Pacific News Service, PACNEWS, which is being forced to leave Fiji by a government decision to expel two of its key employees. Radio Australia's Pacific affairs correspondent Jemimah Gareth says four countries—Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Tonga—have offered a permanent home to the news service. The chairman of PACNEWS parent body, the Pacific Islands Broadcasting Association [PIBA] said a decision on a home for the organization will be made at the PIBA board meeting in August.

The Fiji Government yesterday announced expulsion orders for the PACNEWS coordinator and its technical director, both of whom worked for the West German-based (Frederick Ibid) foundation.

Taiwanese Warships Arrive on 'Goodwill Mission'

BK0405073890 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] In Fiji, three Taiwanese warships have arrived in Suva for what has been billed as a goodwill mission. The arrival of the Taiwanese warships coincides with the 10-day visit by Fiji's military commander Major General Rabuka to China. Fiji has formal diplomatic ties with Beijing but also plays host to a permanent trade mission from Taipei as well as China.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS says the arrival of a training ship and two destroyers has left foreign diplomats in Suva puzzling over Fiji's policy on China. AAP says General Rabuka's Beijing visit—his first overseas trip since he staged two military coups in 1987—is being sponsored by the Ministry of Defense in Beijing and involves several senior Chinese military officials. In January, Taiwan agreed to lend Fiji Australian $2.6 million for military equipment, while last month Beijing authorized Australian $11 million interest-free loan for rural development.

Papua New Guinea

Government Orders Blockade of Bougainville

BK0405035090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0342 GMT 4 May 90

[By Wally Hiambohn]

[Text] Port Moresby, May 4 (AFP)—The Papua New Guinea Government has ordered a military blockade of Bougainville Island from Sunday [6 May] in a bid to isolate secessionist militants who control the troubled territory. The order, signed Wednesday, declared a 50-mile (80-kilometre) "exclusive zone" around Bougainville and authorised the military to open fire without warning on ships or aircraft entering it.

No official announcement has been made but local reporters obtained a copy of the order signed by Deputy Transport Secretary Pais Pundei. Government officials were not immediately available for comment but acting Prime Minister Ted Diro's office was expected to issue some kind of statement later Friday. Word of the blockade drew immediate criticism from Bougainville's Catholic Bishop Gregory Singkai, who said it would

"slaughter the innocent" by depriving residents of food, fuel and medical necessities.

The blockade order, which comes into effect Sunday, was aimed at denying entry to foreign ships sympathetic to the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA). The BRA has been in control of Bougainville since government troops pulled out in March after a 16-month guerrilla war that left more than 80 people dead. The militants, who first declared war on the Australian-run Bougainville Copper Mine in a row over compensation for local landowers, have made it clear they want independence. The BRA said it would seek outside support, including from communist countries, to achieve that objective.

The government blockade will effectively halt all trade and movement of people to and from Bougainville and the outside world, including the rest of Papua New Guinea. It will also cut off supplies to the islands which are already critically short of food, fuel and medicine.

Bishop Singkai, who heads the church on Bougainville, said children would starve to death as a result of the blockade and others would suffer from a lack of basic necessities. "Peace-loving, peace-seeking persons from Bougainville and the rest of Papua New Guinea who seek a negotiated settlement to the crisis can only despair," he said in a statement. The clergyman said a blockade would violate the U.N. Charter and the world body's Declaration of Human Rights as well as the 1975 Helsinki Declaration. "Does Papua New Guinea want to be known throughout the world as another one of 'those' countries that makes war on babies, children, innocent men and women and the elderly? To deprive the people of Bougainville of medicine, food and the means of making a living is to slaughter the innocent as they will die from lack of medical care, malnutrition, as they have no means to buy the necessities of life. Are the leaders of Papua New Guinea convinced in their conscience that they are doing the right thing?" He called on his countrymen to oppose "the genocidal actions against Bougainville that will likewise destroy Papua New Guinea."

Fired Police Official Charged With Treason

BK0205114390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1128 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Port Moresby, May 2 (AFP)—Sacked Papua New Guinea police commissioner Paul Tohian was charged Wednesday [2 May] with treason following an alleged abortive attempt to spark a coup against Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu on March 14. During a short appearance in Port Moresby district court, Mr. Tohian, 41, was accused of intending to take over as prime minister of Papua New Guinea. In a separate hearing, Gari Baki, 34, the former director of the special services division of the police mobile squad, was also charged with treason.

Mr. Tohian was alleged to have ordered the police mobile squad to arm itself and accompany him to parliament house with the intention of placing Mr. Namaliu under house arrest, the court heard. It was alleged that Mr. Baki fully armed his mobile squad in support of Mr. Tohian. Mr. Tohian was sacked as police commissioner on March 15.

No pleas were entered and bail was refused. The matters were stood over until May 16. Mr. Tohian was the controller of the state of emergency on Bougainville and reportedly opposed the government's March ceasefire with rebel landowners which halted a 16-month secessionist war during which more than 80 people were killed.